

Vol. XXV

Part I



Bombay Legislative Council Debates

Official Report

Monday, February 18, 1929

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AGENDA

**Agenda for the First Session of the Bombay Legislative Council
held at the Council Hall, Bombay, on Monday, the
18th February 1929, at 2 p.m.**

I. OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE CROWN.

II. NOMINATION OF FOUR CHAIRMEN BY THE PRESIDENT.

III. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

IV. INTRODUCTION OF BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1929-30.

V. GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET.

VI. DEMANDS FOR GRANTS AND MOTIONS TO REDUCE OR OMIT BUDGET GRANTS.

VII. DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

VIII. GOVERNMENT BILLS.

* (1) Bill No. XVI of 1927 (A Bill to prevent the excessive sub-division of agricultural land and to promote the consolidation of such land)—*Second Reading.*

(2) Bill No. XXVI of 1928 (A Bill to provide for the Establishment of a Court of Small Causes at Karachi)—*Second Reading.*

(3) Bill No. XIV of 1927 (A Bill further to amend the Indian Registration Act, 1908, in its application to the Presidency of Bombay).

(4) Bill No. XXXVII of 1928 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Abkari Act, 1878)—*First Reading.*

(5) Bill No. I of 1929 (A Bill to amend the Court-fees (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1926)—*First Reading.*

(6) Bill No. II of 1929 (A Bill further to amend the Indian Registration Act, 1908, in its application to the Presidency of Bombay)—*First Reading.*

(7) Bill No. III of 1929 (A Bill further to amend the Indian Stamp (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1922)—*First Reading.*

IX. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION AND MOTION.

*Resolution by the Honourable Mr. B. V. Jadhav, M.A., LL.B.,
M.L.C.*

"This Council recommends to Government that the following notification proposed to be issued under section 3 of the Cotton Transport Act, 1923 (III of 1923), having been laid in draft before the Council and approved by it in the form set forth below, may now be issued in the said form :—

Notification

Whereas it has been found that the quality and reputation of the cotton grown in areas I and II of the areas specified in Schedule I to

* Government do not intend to proceed with this Bill at this Session.

Government Notification in the Revenue Department No. 535-A dated the 18th August 1923, has suffered on account of the importation and admixture of cotton-seed, kapas and cotton of inferior quality grown in area III of the schedule aforesaid.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Cotton Transport Act, 1923 (III of 1923), and in supersession of Government Notification in the Revenue Department No. 3798/24, dated the 10th August 1926, the Government of Bombay is pleased further to amend Government Notification in the Revenue Department No. 535-A dated the 18th August 1923, and to prohibit the import of cotton-seed, kapas or cotton by road into the south Surat and the Surat areas from the Olpad-Ankleshwar area specified in Schedule I thereto save under and in accordance with the conditions of a license prescribed in this behalf: Provided that licenses shall be issued so to import from the Olpad-Ankleshwar area into the south Surat and the Surat areas as described in the said schedule, only Surat 1027 kapas which has been marked 'Surat 1027' after being certified as such by the Agricultural Department: Provided further that licenses for half-pressed bales may be issued to press-owners in Surat who will undertake to mark cotton coming from Rander, Olpad and Sandhiar as Rander, Olpad and Sandhiar, respectively, such marks being applied on the hoops after the press mark and also on the hessian: Provided also that as regards cotton grown in Mandvi taluka licenses may be given to gins not exceeding two in number at Bardoli and one gin at Madhi to receive kapas from that taluka on an undertaking being given by them to keep their kapas, cotton seed and cotton separate and to mark half-pressed bales as 'Mandvi' cotton and to mark full-pressed bales as 'Mandvi' on the hoops as well as on the hessian."

Motion by the Honourable Mr. G. B. Pradhan, LL.B.—

"That the period of service of the Finance Committee as at present constituted do continue until the dissolution of the Legislative Council."

X. PRIVATE BILLS.

(1) Bill No. VI of 1928 (A Bill to regulate the employment of women in factories some time before and some time after confinement and to provide for the payment of Maternity benefit to them)—*Second Reading*—Mr. R. S. Asavale, M.L.C.

(2) Bill No. XXII of 1928 (A Bill to amend the Bombay Pleaders' Act, 1920)—*Second Reading*—Mr. H. V. Pataskar, M.L.C.

(3) Bill No. XXIII of 1928 (A Bill to amend the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879)—*Second Reading*—Rao Bahadur R. R. Kale.

(4) Bill No. XXIV of 1927 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Local Boards Act, 1923)—*First Reading*—Mr. L. M. Deshpande, M.L.C.

(5) Bill No. XXVIII of 1927 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Local Boards Act, 1923)—*First Reading*—Mr. H. V. Pataskar, M.L.C.

(6) Bill No. XI of 1928 (A Bill to provide for the registration of marriages among the Hindus)—*First Reading*—The Honourable Mr. B. V. Jadhav, M.L.C.

(7) Bill No. XIX of 1928 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay City Municipalities Act, 1925)—*First Reading*—Khan Saheb Allahbaksh Haji Mahomed Umar, M.L.C.

(8) Bill No. XX of 1928 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Hereditary Offices Act, 1874)—*First Reading*—Rao Saheb D. R. Patil, M.L.C.

(9) Bill No. XXI of 1928 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879)—*First Reading*—Sardar G. N. Mujumdar, M.L.C.

(10) Bill No. XXIV of 1928 (A Bill further to amend the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888)—*First Reading*—Mr. S. K. Bole, M.L.C.

(11) Bill No. XXV of 1928 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay City Municipalities Act, 1925)—*First Reading*—Rao Saheb D. R. Patil, M.L.C.

(12) Bill No. XXIX of 1928 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Local Boards Act, 1923)—*First Reading*—Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan, M.L.C.

(13) Bill No. XXX of 1928 (A Bill further to amend the City of Bombay Police Act, 1902)—*First Reading*—Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan, M.L.C.

(14) Bill No. XXXI of 1928 (A Bill to amend the Bombay District Vaccination Act, 1892)—*First Reading*—Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram, M.L.C.

(15) Bill No. XXXII of 1928 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Local Boards Act, 1923)—*First Reading*—Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram, M.L.C.

(16) Bill No. XXXIII of 1928 (A Bill further to amend the City of Bombay Police Act, 1902)—*First Reading*—Mr. P. J. Marzban, M.L.C.

(17) Bill No. XXXIV of 1928 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879)—*First Reading*—Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan, M.L.C.

(18) Bill No. XXXV of 1928 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918, and the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions No. 2) Act, 1918)—*First Reading*—Mr. S. C. Joshi, M.L.C.

(19) Bill No. XXXVI of 1928 (A Bill further to amend the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1879)—*First Reading*—Mr. H. V. Pataskar, M.L.C.

(20) Bill No. IV of 1929 (A Bill to restrict the increase of rent of certain premises in the Municipal District and Cantonment of Karachi)—*First Reading*—Mr. N. A. Bechar, M.L.C.

Notice of amendments* has been received from Mr. S. C. Joshi, M.L.C.

(21) A bill further to amend the Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901—Motion for leave to introduce the Bill—Mr. N. A. Bechar, M.L.C.

* Printed as Appendix to this Agenda.

(22) A Bill further to amend the Bombay Hereditary Offices Act, 1874—Motion for leave to introduce the Bill—Rao Bahadur S. T. Kambli, M.L.C.

(23) A Bill further to amend the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879—Motion for leave to introduce the Bill—Mr. K. M. Munshi, M.L.C.

(24) A Bill further to amend the Gujarat Talukdars' Act, 1888—Motion for leave to introduce the Bill—Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan, M.L.C.

(25) A Bill further to amend section 102 of the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879—Motion for leave to introduce the Bill—Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram, M.L.C.

(26) A Bill further to amend section 62 of the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879—Motion for leave to introduce the Bill—Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram, M.L.C.

(27) A Bill further to amend the Bombay City Municipalities Act, 1925—Motion for leave to introduce the Bill—Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram, M.L.C.

(28) A Bill further to amend the Bombay Port Trust Act, 1879—Motion for leave to introduce the Bill—Mr. S. K. Bole, M.L.C.

(29) A Bill further to amend sections 45 and 100 of the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879—Motion for leave to introduce the Bill—Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram, M.L.C.

(30) A Bill further to amend the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888—Motion for leave to introduce the Bill—Mr. Syed Munawar, M.L.C.

XI. MOTIONS TO AMEND STANDING ORDERS.

* Motion No. VII of 1928—*Second Reading*—Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan, M.L.C.

† Motion No. I of 1929—By Mr. R. G. Pradhan, M.L.C.

XII. MOTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER XII, 6, TO PRESENT AN ADDRESS TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

Under Standing Order XII, 6, of the Bombay Legislative Council Standing Orders, notices have been received of the following motion from—

(i) Mr. S. A. Sardesai, M.L.C.

(ii) Sardar G. N. Mujumdar, M.L.C.

“That the following humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay :

“May it please Your Excellency,

We, the Members of the Bombay Legislative Council, respectfully pray that Your Excellency may be pleased to extend the life of the present Legislative Council to the maximum period permissible under proviso (b) to Section 72B (1) of the Government of India Act in the hope that the next general election may be held under the new constitution to be framed upon the report of the Indian Statutory Commission.”

* This has been circulated to members separately.

† Printed as Appendix to this Agenda.

XIII. DISCUSSION OF MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.*

Resolutions by the Thakore of Kerwada.

1. "This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council to appoint a committee of officials and non-official members of the Council with power to co-opt experts in agriculture, to suggest means by which agriculture can be developed and be brought in line with other advanced countries."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to give the Broach Sanitary Association a grant for purchasing equipment for the J. D. Vakil Sanitary Museum at Broach, for the maintenance of 60 table dispensaries in the Broach District, for giving honoraria to their Honorary workers and for propaganda work by means of Lectures, shows and publishing literature."

3. "This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council to drop the question of the amalgamation of Hansot Mahal with the Taluka of Ankleshwar."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that the Vishram Bag Wada in Poona City or at least a major portion of it be transferred to the Poona City Municipality for locating the Reay Industrial Museum."

Resolutions by Mr. M. D. Karki, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the existing land revenue assessment in the talukas of Siddapur, Sirsi and Yellapur in Kanara should not be increased by virtue of the revision settlement made by Mr. Collins since 1924 but be decreased throughout."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to request the Government of India to take necessary steps forthwith for the formation of an independent province of the Kannada-speaking areas within British India."

3. "This Council recommends to Government to reintroduce immediately the scheme of Medical Inspection of school-going students periodically by specially appointed qualified Medical Officers which existed in 1921 and was abolished in 1922 as a measure of retrenchment."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that the Vishram Bag Wada in Poona City or at least a major portion of it be transferred to the Poona City Municipality for locating the Reay Industrial Museum."

5. "This Council recommends to Government to abandon forthwith the measures adopted by them to fix and levy new water-rate on Khushi, i.e., dry crop lands, in the Ankola Taluka of the Kanara District."

Resolutions by Rao Saheb D. R. Patil, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to move His Excellency the Governor to extend the life of the present Council by one

* Resolutions are arranged according to the order of priority determined by ballot.

year more under proviso (b) of clause 1 of section 72B of the Government of India Act.”

2. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

Resolutions by Mr. B. R. Nanal, M.L.C.

1. “This Council recommends to Government to take steps to establish a College of Technology on the lines laid down in the report of the Bombay University Reforms Committee, 1925.”

2. “This Council recommends to Government to take immediate steps to open a Department of Chemical Technology in the Royal Institute of Science and for that purpose, to utilise the vacant wing of the said Institute and such parts of the reserve funds of the Institute which are now with Government as may be necessary.”

3. “This Council recommends to Government to give an annual grant of Rs. 50,000 (Fifty thousand) to the University of Bombay to organise a department of physical training with a view to carrying out completely the scheme of introducing compulsory physical training in colleges, which has been put into successful operation in Poona during the last year.”

4. “This Council recommends to Government that in lieu of the present system of pensions a system of provident fund on the same lines as in the Indian State Railways be provided for Government servants in the subordinate and clerical services under their employ, existing servants being given a choice to come under the new scheme with equitable adjustments in regard to their past services, the principles of which adjustments will be as approved by this Council on a motion made by the Honourable the Finance Member in that behalf.”

5. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

6. “This Council recommends to Government that the scheme of Primary Teachers’ pay as recommended by Sathe-Paranjpye Committee should at once be put into effect in pursuance of the resolution of this Council passed in July 1926, with retrospective effect from March 1926.”

Resolutions by Khan Saheb A. M. Mansuri, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

2. “This Council recommends to Government to provide the necessary amount in the current year’s budget to open Urdu High Schools at Ahmedabad and Surat at an early date.”

3. “This Council recommends to Government to add a second year training class to the existing Urdu first year training classes at Ahmedabad.”

Resolutions by Sardar G. N. Mujumdar, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

2. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

Resolutions by Syed Miran Mahomed Shah, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that they should start immediately the construction of a weir across the Indus at Jherruck utilizing therefor the tools and plant purchased for the Sukkur Barrage as they become released from those works."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that sanction be accorded to Resolution No. 400 dated 23rd August 1928 passed by the Karachi Municipal School Board on the subject of grant-in-aid to approved aided schools within the Karachi Municipal area."

Resolutions by Mr. G. A. D. Wasif, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council to move the Government of India and the Secretary of State for India to constitute the province of Sindh into an autonomous and self-contained province separated from the Bombay Presidency proper."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that the exemption granted by Government to the Dawoodi Bohra community from the operation of the Mussalman Wakf Act of 1923 should at once be withdrawn and the said Act be forthwith made applicable to the said section of the Muslim Community."

3. "This Council recommends to the Government to urge upon the Railway Board the desirability of taking early steps to start the construction of a railway line from Manmad to Malegaon in Nasik district."

4. "This Council recommends to the Government that the Urdu language be made a compulsory subject in the curriculum of primary schools in the province of Bombay and that all necessary steps be taken to make this possible at an early date."

5. "This Council recommends to Government that no talatj be kept in service at one place for more than three years."

6. "This Council recommends to Government to open an industrial and technical school at Malegaon immediately."

7. "This Council recommends to Government to establish at least one combined Ayurvedic and Unani Medical College like the one in Madras for the Bombay Presidency at some suitable centre."

8. "This Council recommends to Government that steps be taken to have at least one fast train running on the Dhond-Manmad section of the G. I. P. Railway."

9. "This Council recommends to Government to take immediate steps for introducing legislation for the registration and licensing of moneylenders and sawkars such as Marwadis and Pathans on the lines of the Moneylenders Bill recently passed in the Punjab Legislative Council."

10. "This Council recommends to Government to remove all brothels, houses of prostitutes, public women and singing girls from the main roads in the cities of the Bombay Presidency."

11. "This Council recommends to Government to establish immediately an Anglo-Urdu Middle School at Malegaon, district Nasik."

12. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

13. "This Council recommends to Government that in supersession of the orders issued by Government in their Resolution No. 908, Public Works Department, dated 14th December 1928, regarding the retransfer of certain Provincial works from the District Local Board, Ahmednagar, to the Public Works Department from 1st April 1929, these works should continue to be entrusted to the said Board for maintenance for a further period of five years from 1st April 1929."

Resolutions by Mr. V. N. Jog, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

2. "This Council recommends to Government that they be pleased to recommend to the Government of India that the Kanarese speaking districts of the British Karnatak be formed into a separate independent province possessing all the powers legislative, executive, judicial and administrative with a Governor at its head."

3. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

Resolution by Rao Bahadur S. N. Angadi, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

Resolutions by Dr. P. G. Solanki, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that 50 per cent. of the posts of menial staff in Government offices requiring no educational qualifications be reserved for the members of the Depressed Classes, no further appointments to such posts from members of other communities being made until the said proportion of 50 per cent. is reached."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to reserve at least 10 per cent. of the posts of Government services in all the Departments of Government for deserving candidates possessing the requisite minimum qualifications from the depressed untouchable classes, no further appointments to such posts from members of other communities being made until the said percentage of 10 per cent. is reached."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that a certain number or a fixed percentage of special scholarships be set apart solely for the benefit of the boys and girls of untouchable depressed classes apart from those set apart for the backward classes in the primary, secondary and high schools."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that they should forthwith stop all grants to primary and secondary schools under the control of local bodies who refuse admission to boys and girls of the depressed (untouchable) classes on the plea of custom and religion and deny the children of the depressed (untouchable) classes equal treatment with those of other Hindoo communities."

5. "This Council recommends to Government that the term 'depressed classes' should henceforth be strictly restricted to those classes which are treated by Hindoos as untouchables and are not allowed entry into the temples, dharamshalas and common meeting places of the Hindoos."

6. "This Council recommends to Government that all castes other than those treated as untouchables by Hindoos and now merged in the general nomenclature of the 'depressed classes' in the Government Educational Department, should henceforth be classified as the backward Hindoos."

7. "This Council recommends to Government to introduce legislation immediately for monthly or six monthly medical inspection of all the male teaching staff in all the Government, Government aided, Municipal and private schools in all the important cities of the Presidency."

8. "This Council recommends to Government to take immediate steps for introducing legislation for the registration and licensing of money-lenders and sowcars such as Marwadis and Pathans on the lines of the Money-lenders Bill recently passed in the Punjab Legislative Council."

9. "This Council recommends to Government to take immediate steps for introducing legislation for the registration, licensing and weekly medical inspection of all prostitutes, public women and singing girls in all the important cities of Bombay Presidency, with a view to retard and check the spread of venereal diseases."

10. "This Council recommends to Government to remove all the brothels, houses of prostitutes, public women and singing girls from the main roads in the city of Bombay along which the tram lines pass, and from the vicinity of municipal and private schools, Hindoo temples, Parsee fire temples, mosques and churches and other places of worship of all other communities and to bring in legislation immediately to put a stop to brothels and prostitution in the city of Bombay."

11. "This Council recommends to Government that all written questions asked by the members of the Council during a session should be replied to by the respective departments during the next session of the Council as a rule and not be put off from session to session."

12. "This Council recommends to Government that questions for which information is being collected should be answered at the latest in the next session immediately following the session at which the questions are put and should not be left unanswered finally from session to session till the period of three years of the Council is over."

13. "This Council recommends to Government to recommend to the Government of India to exempt all the members of the Bombay Legislative Council from the operations of the Arms Act."

14. "This Council recommends to Government to request the Government of India to expedite the revision of the Meston Settlement concerning the income-tax revenue of the Bombay Presidency and to allot a fair proportion of the said revenue to this Presidency."

15. (As No. 13 of Mr. G. A. D. Wasif.)

Resolutions by Rao Bahadur S. T. Kambli, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the system of Medical Examination of School-going students by specially appointed qualified Medical Officers which was in existence in 1921 and abolished in 1922 as a measure of retrenchment, be reintroduced, without delay."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to take early steps to establish a technical school in the Bombay Karnatak."

3. (As No. 1 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

4. "This Council recommends to Government to take immediate steps to open a department of Chemical Technology in the Royal Institute of Science."

5. "This Council recommends to Government that an annual grant of not less than a Lakh of Rupees be given to the Bombay University to organize and promote physical training in Colleges and in Secondary Schools of the Presidency."

Resolution by Mr. W. B. Hossack, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the Karachi Municipality should be exempted from the operation of the orders issued in Government Resolution No. 2307/24, dated 8th June 1925."

Resolutions by Mr. B. G. Pahalajani, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to undertake without delay the work of remodelling and improving the Kalri and the Pinyari projects in the Karachi District."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to undertake without delay the work of remodelling and improving the Ghotki Canals in the Sukkur Division."

Resolutions by Mr. D. A. Janvekar, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

2. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

3. "This Council recommends to Government to take immediate steps for the amendment of the Primary Education Act of 1923 so as to make it more suitable for the needs of the minority communities like the Muslims."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that suitable Government buildings be provided as early as possible to house the Anglo-Urdu High School, Hubli and the Hostels attached thereto."

5. "This Council recommends to Government to remove the present restrictions on admissions in High Schools and to permit the admission of all applicants even though such admissions involve the opening of more classes."

6. "This Council recommends to Government to open an Anglo-Urdu Middle School in each District town in the Presidency."

7. "This Council recommends to Government to establish an Urdu Training School for Women at Hubli."

8. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint one Urdu Assistant Deputy for every two Districts to help the Urdu Deputy Educational Inspector in each Division."

9. "This Council recommends to Government to take early steps to establish an Industrial School at Bijapur."

Resolution by Khan Bahadur Syed Ghulam Nabi Shah, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 1 of Mr. Syed Miran Mahomed Shah.)

Resolutions by Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to hand back the Gujarat College, Ahmedabad, to the citizens of Ahmedabad."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint a Committee of officials and non-officials to enquire into the grievances of the cultivators of talukdari, inamdari, zamindari and khoti villages of the Bombay Presidency and to recommend legislation for their removal."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that magisterial powers should not be given to talukdars or inamdars in their villages."

4. (As No. 4 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

5. "This Council recommends to Government to remit the unexpired portions of the sentences passed on the persons convicted in the Ahmedabad and Viramgaum riots of 1919 and to release them forthwith."

6. "This Council recommends to Government that the refreshment room foreign liquor license granted to Messrs. E. R. Fanibanda and Sons of Ahmedabad be immediately cancelled."

7. "This Council recommends to Government that the 'off' foreign liquor license of Messrs. E. R. Fanibanda and Sons of Ahmedabad cancelled from the 1st April 1927 but temporarily revived for six months shall be closed permanently as soon as the temporary period of extension expires."

8. "This Council recommends to Government that in view of the fact that there are more foreign liquor licenses than country liquor licenses in Ahmedabad, no further foreign liquor license be granted in future and the policy of reducing the number of foreign liquor licenses be gradually adopted."

9. "This Council recommends to Government to recommend to the Government of India to amend Rule 5 of Part II of Schedule V of the Bombay Electoral Rules so as to declare the hiring, employment, borrowing or use of private conveyances for the purposes of election as a corrupt practice."

10. "This Council recommends to Government that the fees for the several kinds of forest produce, including grazing fees, which have been recently increased, be brought to their original level."

11. "This Council recommends to Government that the present practice of indiscriminate slaughter of cattle be discontinued and that rules be at once framed and enforced throughout the province for stopping the slaughter of—

(a) animals which are pregnant or in milk ;

(b) all cows ;

(c) breeding bulls, draught and plough bulls and bullocks ;

(d) all animals (other than sheep or goats) which are under the age of nine years ;

and that the existing laws on the subject be so amended as to give effect to this resolution."

12. "This Council recommends to Government to take all necessary steps for the development of the Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine."

13. "This Council recommends to Government that an Ayurvedic and Unani College be established at a convenient place in the Presidency."

14. "This Council recommends to Government not to enforce, in any of the talukas of this Presidency, enhanced rates of survey assessments fixed as a result of the revision operations carried out during the last eleven years."

15. "This Council recommends to Government that the liquor shop at Saraspur, a suburb of Ahmedabad, which is situated in front of the well of the suburb, be forthwith removed from its present location."

16. "This Council recommends to Government to amend the orders passed in Government Memorandum No. 2939-N, dated 27th March 1924, Public Works Department, and exempt local board officials and servants from paying tolls on provincial roads, in the same way as Government servants have been exempted from paying tolls on local fund roads."

17. "This Council recommends to Government that in future replies given to questions put by honourable members of this House should be of a more satisfactory nature."

18. "This Council recommends to Government that an independent committee of enquiry consisting of non-officials be appointed to inquire into and report upon the soundness or otherwise of the Sukkur Barrage Scheme and to make necessary suggestions for the prosecution, curtailment or modification of the said scheme."

19. "This Council recommends to Government that the Development Department chawls at Worli be let out to the textile workers of Bombay at rents which they could fetch at present."

20. "This Council recommends to Government that transport facilities and adequate police protection be provided for the workers residing at the Development Department chawls at Worli."

21. "This Council recommends to Government not to maintain a separate department of the Information Bureau and to dissolve the said department at an early date."

22. "This Council recommends to Government to request the Government of India to expedite the revision of the Meston Settlement concerning the income tax revenue of the Presidency so that a fair proportion of the said revenue should be allotted by the Government of India to this Presidency."

23. "This Council recommends to Government that for the healthy growth of Labour and for dealing with labour and industrial problems in the Presidency it is necessary to maintain a separate Department of Labour as before and that the said Department be separated from the Department of the Information Bureau."

24. "This Council recommends to Government that a Commission may be appointed at an early date to inquire into the administration of the jails in the Bombay Presidency and to suggest ways and means for introducing measures of jail reform on the lines pursued in the West and in America."

25. "This Council recommends to Government that a committee with a non-official majority may be appointed at an early date to inquire into the problem of unemployment in the Presidency and in Bombay in particular and to suggest ways and means for solving the said problem."

26. "This Council recommends to Government to take immediate steps for imparting technical and scientific education in schools and colleges on a wider scale and to establish technological and scientific institutions on modern lines for giving scientific and technical education."

27. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint a Retrenchment Committee with a non-official majority for the purpose of effecting retrenchment in all Government departments in the Presidency."

28. "This Council recommends to Government that in order to enable the cultivators to sell their produce without undue haste and to secure proper price for it, the dates of revenue payments in the various talukas of the Presidency be shifted forward by one month."

29. "This Council recommends to Government that in order to enable the labouring population to exercise the right of franchise, the day of general elections be declared a public holiday for labourers working in all the factories regulated by the Factory Act."

30. "This Council recommends to Government that a committee of non-official and official members of this Council be appointed to make definite proposals regarding the distribution of road grants to each district on an equitable basis and to discontinue the present method of making these grants."

31. "This Council recommends to Government to reinstitute the classes for the third year trained teachers and to restart the training schools that have been stopped."

32. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint a committee of non-official and official members to consider the possibility of creating posts of lady doctors at suitable centres."

33. "This Council recommends to Government to amend the Agriculturists Loans Act in such a manner as to enable Government to advance tagavi loans to the tenants of talukdari estates, whether the Talukdars stand securities for them or not."

34. "This Council recommends to Government that they should not charge any interest on tagavi loans granted to the afflicted cultivators of Gujarat, whose crops were destroyed by heavy rainfall and flood."

35. "This Council recommends to Government that they may be pleased to direct that all purchases for the requirements of every department under the Government of Bombay shall be made by open tender being called in India in rupees for delivery in India."

36. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to increase the number of elected Indian trustees of the Board of the Port Trust of Bombay from seven to twelve."

37. "This Council recommends to Government that they should immediately spend two crores of rupees from the Famine Insurance Fund for the rehabilitation of the cultivators of those regions of Gujarat which have been devastated by heavy rainfall and floods in the month of July 1927."

38. "This Council recommends to Government to abolish the joint bond system of granting tagavi loans to cultivators and to introduce in its place the system of granting tagavi loans on the security of the lands of the cultivators."

39. "This Council recommends to Government that they should supply the reports of every committee appointed in virtue of a resolution of the Legislative Council and Government Resolutions thereon to all the Members of the Legislative Council."

40. "This Council recommends to Government that in view of the awful devastation and untold distress to the cultivators of Gujarat caused by heavy rainfall and floods in the months of July and August of 1927, Government should, as a matter of humanity and grace, remit the land revenue in all the affected talukas of Gujarat for the year 1927-1928 and should immediately make an announcement to that effect so as to allay the harrowed and distressed feelings and fears of the lakhs of sorely afflicted poor agriculturists."

41. "This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council that all expenditure sanctioned for the Bombay Development and Sukkur Barrage schemes should be utilized for the relief of the distressed during the recent disaster caused by the floods in Gujarat and for reconstruction of villages destroyed and a large amount may be placed at the disposal of the district local boards in Gujarat for repairs and reconstruction of roads, bridges, culverts, school-houses and sanitary works in the affected area."

42. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that all schemes involving capital expenditure exceeding one lakh of rupees should be considered by a committee of the Council and sanctioned by the Council before they are launched."

43. "This Council recommends to Government that in view of the fact that the recent destructive floods have caused extensive damage to the soil in nearly all parts of Ahmedabad, Broach, Kaira and Panch Mahals districts, rendering the soil unfit for cultivation for several years as the expenses for improvement cannot be afforded by the cultivators, Government should estimate the total acreage of soil rendered agriculturally unproductive and valueless and devise measures for improvement and reclamation of the ruined soils of the devastated talukas of the districts above mentioned."

44. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint immediately a special agricultural officer of high equipments to accomplish a detailed and scientific survey of the soils of the districts of Gujarat devastated by the recent floods and to order the Revenue Department to free those ruined soils which have been rendered wholly uncultivable from all assessment charges."

45. "This Council recommends to Government to make an enquiry into the adulteration of pure ghee and butter with vegetable and other imported oils in the presidency of Bombay and to make such amendments in the existing adulteration laws as would put a complete stop to the practice of adulteration of pure ghee and butter."

46. "This Council recommends to Government to recommend to the Government of India to impose control over the importation of vegetable and other oils which are being used to adulterate pure ghee and butter in the presidency of Bombay."

47. "This Council recommends to Government to make an enquiry into the adulteration of pure ghee and butter with imported and other vegetable oils in the presidency and to introduce legislation to put a complete stop to this practice of adulteration or, if necessary, to make a representation to the Government of India to impose control over the importation of such oils."

48. "This Council recommends to Government that they be pleased to revise substantially the present scales of pay of the sub-registrars and registration clerks so as to bring them on par with the pay of officers of a similar status in other departments and that of sub-registrars and registration clerks in other provinces and presidencies."

49. "This Council recommends to Government to grant free licenses for at least ten guns in every village to cultivators for protection of their persons and properties from dacoits and robbers."

50. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

51. "This Council recommends to Government to give the Broach Sanitary Association suitable grants for purchasing equipment for the J. D. Vakil Sanitary Museum at Broach, for the maintenance of sixty table dispensaries in the Broach District, for payment of honoraria to

the honorary workers of the Association and for propaganda work by means of lectures, shows and publication of literature."

52. (As No. 1 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

53. (As No. 2 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

54. (As No. 3 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

Resolutions by Mr. S. A. Sardesai, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government not to recognise the adoption by a Watandar holding a Sanad under the Gordon settlement of a person who is not a member of the Watan family without the unanimous consent of all the sharers of the Watan and the consequent consent of the Government."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to organise the Public Health Department by the appointment of Health Officers and properly trained staff in every District and Major Municipality and to make a beginning in this direction by Provincialising the Health Officers already employed by Local Bodies."

3. "This Council recommends to Government to investigate the following schemes for the benefit of a portion of Bijapur District, namely :—

(1) Ramtal Scheme (near Kamatgi Causeway on the Malaprabha river).

(2) Aliholi Scheme (on the Malaprabha river).

4. "This Council recommends to Government to open an Industrial and Technical School at Bijapur immediately."

5. "This Council recommends to Government to abolish all tolls levied under Bombay Act III of 1875."

6. "This Council recommends to Government to recommend to the Government of India to exempt all members of this Council from the operation of the Arms Act."

7. "This Council recommends to Government to move the Government of India to exempt all Inamdars and Jahgirdars either possessing at least one entire Inam village or paying Rs. 250 as either Judi or land assessment from the operation of the Indian Arms Act."

8. "This Council recommends to Government to recommend to the Government of India to create a separate Electorate of Inamdars and Sardars of the Karnatak Districts with a right to return at least one elected member to this Council."

9. "This Council recommends to Government to establish at least one combined Ayurvedic and Unani Medical College for the Bombay Presidency at some suitable centre under the management of a Board consisting of members who have received training in Anatomy, Surgery, and other scientific subjects."

10. "This Council recommends to Government to move the Government of India to create a new Province of Karnatak Districts from the Kannada-speaking parts of the Bombay and Madras Presidencies and Coorg."

11. "This Council recommends to Government that it may be pleased to take necessary steps to have at least two Non-Muhammadan representatives in the Bombay Legislative Council from Bijapur District."

12. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

13. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

14. (As No. 13 of Mr. G. A. D. Wasif.)

Resolutions by Rao Bahadur R. R. Kale, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that, with the help of a Committee of experts in Education, Agriculture and Industries, and in the light of the Reports on Unemployment issued by the Bengal, Madras and Punjab Governments, as well as the Reports of the Industrial Commission of 1916-18, the External Capital Committee's Report, Sir Visvesvaraya Committee's Report and the Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture, they should be pleased to adopt necessary measures for remedying the evil arising from the increase in the unemployed educated middle classes, *i.e.*, such persons as have received some form of Secondary or Higher Education and are not sufficiently well off to dispense with the need of some occupation for earning their livelihoods."

2. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

3. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

4. (As No. 1 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

5. (As No. 2 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

6. (As No. 3 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

Resolution by Mr. R. G. Pradhan, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that the proposals of the Settlement Officer with regard to increase of land revenue in the Baglan Taluka should not be sanctioned."

Resolutions by Mr. N. E. Navle, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to introduce a system of uniform weights and measures throughout the Bombay Presidency."

2. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

3. (As No. 13 of Mr. G. A. D. Wasif.)

Resolutions by Mr. S. K. Bole, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint a committee of officials and non-officials to enquire into the grievances of the cultivators of Talukdari, Inamdari and Khoti villages of the Bombay Presidency and to recommend legislation for their removal."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to undertake legislation to put a stop to brothels."

3. "This Council recommends to Government to reduce the rents of the Development chawls at Worlee to Rs. 3 per month for the tenants of the working classes."

4. "This Council recommends to Government to reduce the rents of the Development chawls at Delisle Road to Rs. 6 per month."

5. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint at an early date a committee of officials and non-officials to enquire how far the co-operative credit movement has succeeded in improving the economic condition of the agriculturists and to make recommendations for the removal of the defects noticed and also to suggest measures for the further development of non-credit co-operative societies."

6. "This Council recommends to Government to urge upon the Central Government the necessity of making the orders relating to the recruitment of the backward classes in the Government service applicable to clerical and non-clerical posts in the Custom, Income Tax, Accountant General's offices and other establishments in the Presidency which are under the Central Government."

7. "This Council recommends to Government that the orders relating to the recruitment of the backward classes to posts of clerks be made applicable to non-clerical posts under the Local Government."

8. "This Council recommends to Government that early effect be given to the unanimous recommendations of the non-official members of the Forest Grievances Enquiry Committee."

9. "This Council recommends to Government to establish a Civil Court in the northern part of the City of Bombay for deciding minor civil suits."

10. "This Council recommends to Government to introduce a simple and cheap system of legal procedure in connection with High Court suits and to do away with the offices of Solicitors."

11. "This Council recommends to Government that a grant equal to two-thirds of the expenditure incurred on account of rent, establishment and other charges for the maintenance of hostels for boys of the backward and depressed classes receiving primary education whether started by associations, institutions or individuals, may be awarded as an incentive to start new institutions for the uplift of the masses."

12. "This Council recommends to Government to restore the system of rationing the liquor supplies in the Bombay Presidency."

13. "This Council recommends to Government that Assistant Secretaries in the various Departments of the Secretariat and Chitnis and Head Clerks under the various heads of offices should be transferred from one department or office to another within a period of three years."

14. "This Council recommends to Government that Assistant Secretaries in the various Departments of the Secretariat and Chitnis and Head Clerks under the various heads of offices should not be allowed to make any remarks regarding work, qualifications or merits against

the ministerial employees under them, all such things being personally done by the respective Head Officers or Imperial Service Officers."

15. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)
16. (As No. 1 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
17. (As No. 2 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
18. (As No. 3 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
19. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

Resolutions by Mr. S. C. Joshi, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint a committee of the following gentlemen, with power to add to their number, to inquire into the working of the Co-operative Movement in the Presidency in all its aspects and to suggest lines for its further expansion :—

1. Mr. Otto Rothfeld, *Chairman*.
2. Rao Bahadur G. K. Chitale (Ahmednagar).
3. Mr. J. N. R. Mehta (Karachi).
4. Mr. V. N. Jog, M.L.C. (Dharwar).
5. Mr. A. V. Malji (Broach).
6. Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar (Poona).
7. The Mover."

2. (As No. 4 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

Resolutions by Mr. J. B. Desai, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)
2. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)
3. (As No. 1 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
4. (As No. 2 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
5. (As No. 3 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
6. (As No. 13 of Mr. G. A. D. Wasif.)

Resolution by Khan Bahadur Haji Imam Buksha Khan Jatoi, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 1 of Mr. Syed Miran Mahomed Shah.)

Resolutions by Mr. M. G. Bhosle, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to transfer a sufficient portion of the Vishram Bag Wada in Poona City to the Poona City Municipality for locating the Reay Industrial Museum."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to transfer a sufficient portion of the Vishram Bag Wada in Poona City to the Institution which has moved Government for it, for the purpose of locating in it a College for the study of Sanskrit."

3. "This Council recommends to Government to take notice of its deep regret that Government could not see their way to alleviate the discontent among the primary teachers by giving effect to the Resolution which the last Council adopted without a division at its last session recommending that the Primary Teachers be paid according to the Sathe-Paranjpye Scheme."

4. "This Council recommends to Government to take notice of its deep regret that Government could not see their way to alleviate the

discontent prevailing among the agriculturists by giving effect to all the recommendations unanimously made by the non-official members of the Forest Grievances Inquiry Committee in their majority Report."

5. "This Council recommends to Government to introduce a Bill to prevent 'Saldars' from committing breaches of their agreements of service."

6. "This Council recommends to Government to make a substantial annual grant for a period of at least five years to the District Local Board, West Khandesh, to enable the Board to take steps to ameliorate the condition of the Bhils, who form a substantial portion of the population of that district."

Resolutions by Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to urge upon the Railway Board the desirability of taking early steps to start the construction of a direct Bombay-Karachi broad-gauge railway route."

2. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to urge upon the Railway Board the desirability of taking early steps to start the construction of a feeder line from Amarkote to Jhudo in Thar Parkar District of Sind."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that after the 30th March 1929 all purchases of cloth made by Government or its officials for official use shall be of handspun and handwoven khadar, ordered through the All-India Spinners' Association."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that immediate steps be taken to amend the various municipal Acts in force in the Presidency and the Bombay Local Boards Act, so as to make it obligatory on municipalities and district local boards to impose a prohibitive octroi on foreign cloth or articles made of such cloth imported within their limits."

Resolutions by Dr. M. K. Dixit, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the exemption granted by Government to the Dawoodi-Bohra community from the operation of the Mussalman Waqf Act of 1923 should be withdrawn at once and the said Act be made applicable to the said section of the Muslim community."

2. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

3. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

Resolutions by Mr. L. M. Deshpande, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

2. (As No. 13 of Mr. G. A. D. Wasif.)

Resolution by Mr. Haji Ibrahim Jitekar, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

Resolutions by Rao Bahadur B. R. Naik, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the work of the Revision Settlement of the Talukas of the Surat District be suspended till the principles of Revision Settlement are put on a statutory basis by the amendment of the Bombay Land Revenue Code."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that a committee of non-official and official members of this Council be appointed to make definite proposals regarding the distribution of road grants to each district on an equitable basis and to discontinue the present method of making these grants."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that a committee of officials and non-officials (with a majority of non-official members) be appointed to consider the difficulties experienced by local authorities in the working of the Primary Education Act of 1923 and the rules framed thereunder and to suggest remedies for their removal by amending the Act and the rules where necessary."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that in future the amount spent in any year on the repairs of the tanks in a district should not be less than the amount realised as Himayat (Water-rate) assessment from the tanks of that district in that year."

5. "This Council recommends to Government that uncompleted portions of the provincial roads lying within the limits of the Surat District be completed within one year by metalling them and constructing bridges and causeways wherever necessary."

6. "This Council recommends to Government that an amount of Rs. 3,66,400 which represents the difference between the receipts from Himayat assessment on the tanks in the Surat District for the ten years 1913-14 to 1922-23, viz., Rs. 4,37,166, and the amount spent on the repairs of these tanks in the same period, viz., Rs. 70,766, be spent in the next three years on the special repairs of the tanks in the Surat District."

7. "This Council recommends to Government that they be pleased to give a special grant of rupees one lakh in addition to the grants the District Local Board, Surat, has been at present receiving, at least during each of the next ten years for the purpose of construction of new roads and improvement of the existing roads."

8. "This Council recommends to Government that the Akashia water rates levied on all Kyari lands should be abolished."

9. (As No. 1 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

10. (As No. 2 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

11. (As No. 3 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

12. "This Council recommends to Government that they should give to the Local Boards a grant equal to one anna of every rupee realised by them from the respective districts in addition to the grants given for education as recommended by the Local Self-Government Institute."

Resolution by Mr. Noor Mahomed, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 1 of Mr. Syed Miran Mahomed Shah.)

Resolution by Syed Muhammad Kamil Shah, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 1 of Mr. Syed Miran Mahomed Shah.)

Resolution by Mr. C. R. Shroff, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to suspend the work of Revision Settlement in the Thana District till this Council determines by legislation or otherwise the principles of Recovery of Land Revenue."

Resolutions by Mr. Syed Munawar, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to represent to the Government of India that the system of recruitment of seamen at the port of Bombay through licensed brokers be discontinued, and that the work of recruitment should be undertaken by the Government itself, as is recommended by the Clow Committee appointed by the Government of India in 1922."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that the exemption granted by Government to the Dawoodi Borah community (one of the principal Mussalman sects) from the operation of the Wakf Act should now be withdrawn in view of the fact that the Moslem charitable institutions have come to fulfil the requirements of the Wakf Act."

3. "This Council recommends to Government to take steps for the introduction of legislation for the registration and licensing of money-lenders with a view to restrict the exorbitant rates of interest prevailing in the Presidency and to free the poor and labouring classes from their heavy and life long indebtedness."

4. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint a committee of officials and non-officials at an early date for the purpose of suggesting practical steps for the prevention of professional beggary in the Presidency in general and in Bombay City in particular."

5. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint at an early date a committee consisting of officials and non-officials to enquire into the condition of cottage industries in the Presidency and to suggest measures for their development."

6. "This Council recommends to Government the desirability of exploring the possibilities of starting in consultation with the Director of Industries and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies spinning and weaving factories on co-operative lines on a small scale at centres of cotton producing districts in the Presidency, with a view to providing employment to agriculturists and others, specially handloom weavers who have been displaced from their hereditary occupation, so that the agricultural population may not be divorced from the land to the detriment of agriculture in the province."

7. (As No. 48 of Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan.)

8. (As No. 2 of Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan.)

9. "This Council recommends to Government to represent to the Government of India the desirability of abolishing at an early date the water tax levied on places of worship in the cantonment areas of India."

10. "This Council recommends to Government that a committee be appointed at an early date to inquire into the problem of the growing unemployment in the Presidency, and in Bombay City in particular, and to suggest ways and means for meeting the said problem."

11. "This Council recommends to Government that the Development Department chawls at Worli be let out to the textile workers of Bombay at rents which they could fetch at present."

12. "This Council recommends to Government that transport facilities and adequate police protection be provided for the workers residing at the Development Department chawls at Worli."

13. "This Council recommends to Government to take immediate steps for imparting technical and scientific education in schools and colleges on a wider scale and to establish technological and scientific institutions on modern lines for giving scientific and technical education."

14. "This Council recommends to Government that a commission may be appointed at an early date to enquire into the administration of jails in the Bombay Presidency and to suggest ways and means for introducing measures of jail reform on the lines pursued in the West and America."

15. "This Council recommends to Government to make an inquiry into the adulteration of pure ghee and butter with imported and other vegetable oils in the Presidency and to introduce legislation to put a complete stop to this practice of adulteration or, if necessary, to make representation to the Government of India to impose control over the importation of such oils."

16. (As No. 4 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

17. "This Council recommends to Government to add a second year Training Class to the Central Urdu Girls' School, Poona, with effect from the ensuing official year."

18. "This Council recommends to Government to close all practising schools attached to all Vernacular Training Colleges and Schools in the Presidency proper and to introduce instead a system similar to that of the Urdu Training School, Poona."

19. "This Council recommends to Government to convert the Dhulia Training College into a School by removing the second year class from Dhulia to the Poona Training College for men."

20. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

21. "This Council recommends to Government that the scheme of Primary Teachers' pay recommended by the Sathe-Paranjpe Committee be put into effect at once with retrospective effect from April 1927 in pursuance of the resolution of this Council passed in July 1926."

22. "This Council recommends to Government that the Urdu Training School at Poona be raised to the status of a College."

Resolutions by Mr. M. S. Khuhro, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 1 of Dr. M. K. Dixit.)

2. (As No. 1 of Mr. Syed Miran Mahomed Shah.)

3. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

Resolution by Mr. J. M. Bhurgri, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 1 of Mr. Syed Miran Mahomed Shah.)

Resolutions by Rao Saheb R. V. Vandekar, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)
2. (As No. 13 of Mr. G. A. D. Wasif.)
3. "This Council recommends to Government to give early effect to the scheme of Primary Teachers' pay as recommended by the Sathe-Paranjpe Committee in pursuance of the resolution of this Council passed in July 1926."

Resolution by Sardar S. B. Thorat, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 13 of Mr. G. A. D. Wasif.)

Resolutions by Mr. J. B. Petit, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 1 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
2. (As No. 2 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

Resolutions by Mr. P. J. Marzban, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)
2. (As No. 1 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
3. (As No. 2 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
4. (As No. 3 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

Resolutions by Mr. K. M. Munshi, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 1 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
2. (As No. 2 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
3. (As No. 3 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
4. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)
5. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

Resolution by Mr. S. J. Zunzarrao, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 13 of Mr. G. A. D. Wasif.)

Resolutions by Mr. A. D. Sheth, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to the Government that they should declare the policy of State recognition and State encouragement to the Indian systems of medicine and appoint a committee to inquire and report what steps should be taken to put such a policy into practice."

2. "This Council recommends to the Government to appoint a committee with a non-official majority to enquire into the grievances of talukdars and inamdars on the one hand and their ryots on the other hand in talukdari and inami villages in Gujarat and to report what should be done by legal enactments or otherwise to see that both of them receive fair and just treatment."

3. "This Council recommends to the Government to appoint a committee to inquire into the conditions of the village roads of the Ahmedabad district in the monsoon and to report what should be done to help the villagers in the matter."

Resolutions by Mr. P. R. Chikodi, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 4 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
2. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)
3. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

Resolutions by Mr. N. A. Bechar, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to reaffirm the exemption granted to the Karachi Municipality under Government Resolutions No. 2307/24, dated the 8th June 1925, and No. 2307/24, dated the 4th July 1927, from Government orders relating to the issue of sanads for plots leased by municipalities."

2. (As No. 4 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
3. (As No 48 of Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan.)
4. (As No. 2 of Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan.)

5. "This Council recommends to Government to make an enquiry into the adulteration of pure ghee and butter with imported and other vegetable oils in the Presidency and to introduce legislation to put a complete stop to this practice of adulteration or, if necessary, to make a representation to the Government of India to impose control over the importation of such oils."

6. (As no. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

Resolution by Mr. Hoosainbhoy A. Lalljee, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

Resolutions by Mr. N. R. Gurnjal, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that cow slaughter should be totally forbidden by law in this Presidency."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that all liquor shops, country as well as foreign, should be closed."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that early orders be issued to reduce the water-rate leviable under the provisions of the Bombay Irrigation Act of 1879 to a maximum of Rs. 20 per acre of sugarcane in the whole Bombay Presidency."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that village Patils should be given an annual income from Government of at least Rs. 300 either in cash or in land or partly in cash and partly in land to enable them to keep up their status."

5. "This Council recommends to Government that orders be passed to restore the Kulkarni Vatan System as it existed before the commutation of Kulkarni Vatan."

6. "This Council recommends to Government that they should remit permanently the land revenue assessment to be paid by an agriculturist in a village, if it be below Rs. 8 a year."

7. "This Council recommends to Government that the photo-copying system introduced recently in the Registration Department of this Presidency be abolished forthwith and the old system restored."

8. "This Council recommends to Government that a Committee with a non-official majority be appointed to inquire into the grievances of the agriculturists and aboriginal tribes in the Presidency regarding forced labour being exacted by touring officers and other Government servants, and to suggest measures for the prevention of such practices."

9. "This Council recommends to Government to reduce by one-half the minimum rates of house-taxation prescribed in Government Notification No. 55A, dated 7th May 1922, regarding village Panchayats with a view to increasing the number of 'Panchayats' in the Presidency and popularising them and to substitute for the words 'Capital Value,' occurring in the said resolution the words 'Market Value.'"

10. "This Council recommends to Government that they be pleased to issue directions to all heads of Departments to reply directly to members of this Council if they ask for information of public interest."

11. "This Council recommends to Government that they should encourage the spread of commercial education in this Presidency by making a provision of Rs. 1,00,000 (one hundred thousand) exclusive of the expenditure at present being incurred on the Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics, Bombay, in the budget from this year for giving grants in aid and other kinds of help to private and Government institutions carrying on the work of imparting commercial education."

12. "This Council recommends to Government that district boards and Municipal boards be urged to issue orders for the use of indigenous medicines in place of foreign ones in charitable dispensaries under them."

13. "This Council recommends to Government to make an inquiry into the adulteration of pure ghee and butter with imported and other vegetable oils in the Presidency and to introduce legislation to put a complete stop to this practice of adulteration or if necessary to make a representation to the Government of India to impose control over the importation of such oils."

14. (As No. 48 of Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan.)

15. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint a committee of the non-official members of this Council to bring into force a system of permanent land revenue assessment in this Presidency."

16. "This Council recommends to Government to extend to non-gazetted officers serving at Bombay and Karachi Cities the benefit of the grant of compensatory allowance at the rate of 20 per cent. of their pay with effect from the 1st March 1928."

17. "This Council recommends to Government that the scheme of Primary Teachers' pay as recommended by Sathe-Paranjpe Committee

should at once be put into effect in pursuance of the resolution of this Council passed in July 1926 with retrospective effect from March 1926."

18. (As No. 1 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
19. (As No. 2 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
20. (As No. 3 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
21. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)
22. (As No. 3 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)

Resolutions by Mr. J. R. Patel, M.L.C.

1. (As No. 4 of Mr. M. D. Karki.)
2. (As No. 1 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
3. (As No. 2 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)
4. (As No. 3 of Mr. B. R. Nanal.)

XIV. PAPERS PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL.*

(1) Resolutions of Government in the General Department and Rules of certain municipalities as named below (placed on the Council Table as required by section 221 of the Bombay City Municipalities Act, 1925).

(i) Government Resolution in the General Department No. 4692, dated the 22nd August 1928, regarding the amendment of rule 18 of the Election Rules of the Thana City Municipality.

(ii) Election Rules Nos. 3 and 4 of the Belgaum Municipality as sanctioned by Government Resolution, General Department, No. 4823, dated the 3rd November 1928.

(iii) Government Resolution in the General Department No. 7240, dated the 10th September 1928, regarding the delegation of powers to the Commissioners under section 10 (2) of the Bombay City Municipalities Act, 1925.

(iv) Election Rules of the Shikarpur Municipality as sanctioned by Government Resolution in the General Department No. 6957, dated 28th November 1927.

(2) Government Notification in the Home Department No. L.C. 1331, dated the 30th October 1928, regarding the posting of Additional Police in the City of Sholapur in the Sholapur District [placed on the Council Table in accordance with the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 25 of the Bombay District Police Act, 1890 (Bom. IV of 1890)].

(3) Proceedings of the meeting of the Finance Committee for October 1928.

(4) Finance Department Note No. P. 147A, dated the 18th December 1928, regarding the payment to the Telegraph Department to cover the loss on the working of the guaranteed telegraph offices and telephone lines.

* Kept in the Secretary's Office.

(5) Report of the Select Committee on Bill No. VI of 1928 (A Bill to regulate the employment of women in factories some time before and some time after confinement and to provide for the payment of maternity benefit to them).

(6) Proposed amendment to the Bombay Co-operative Societies Rules (placed on the Council Table as required by section 71 (5) of Bombay Act VII of 1925).

(7) Belgaum Municipal Election Rules. (Placed on the Council Table as required by section 221 of the Bombay City Municipalities Act, 1925.)

(8) Finance Department Note No. 6582-B, dated the 21st January 1929, regarding reorganization of the Aden Police Force.

(9) Finance Department Note No. L-600-B, dated the 22nd January 1929, regarding the Committee to enquire into the educational and economic condition of the depressed classes and aboriginal tribes.

(10) Government Notification in the Home Department No. 3917-2, dated the 21st January 1929, regarding the posting of Additional Police in the village of Nagavi in the Gadag Taluka of the Dharwar District. (Placed on the Council Table in accordance with the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 25 of the Bombay District Police Act, 1890 (Bom. IV of 1890).)

(11) Finance Department Note No. 6599-B, dated the 26th January 1929, regarding the appointment of a Special Officer, Railway Projects, in the Public Works Department, Secretariat.

(12) Report of the Select Committee on Motion VII of 1928 to amend Standing Orders.

(13) Report of the Select Committee on Bill No XXVI of 1928 (A Bill to provide for the Establishment of a Court of Small Causes at Karachi).

G. S. RAJADHYAKSHA,

Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council
of the Governor of Bombay.

Bombay, 18th February 1929.

APPENDIX TO THE AGENDA

AMENDMENTS TO BILLS

Bill No. IV of 1929 (A Bill to restrict the increase of rent of certain premises in the Municipal District and Cantonment of Karachi).

Notice has been received of the following amendments from Mr. S. C. Joshi, M.L.C. :—

(1) In the preamble to the Bill, in line 3 after the word “ premises ” insert the following :—“ the City of Bombay, in the Taluka of Salsette of the District of Thana and ”

(2) In clause 1 of the Bill for the word “ Karachi ” substitute the word “ Bombay ”.

(3) In clause 2 of the Bill after the words “ extend to ” insert the following :—“ to the City of Bombay, to the Taluka of Salsette of the District of Thana and to ”.

• (4) In clause 2 of the Bill for the words “ Rs. 35 per month ” substitute the following :—“ Rs. 60 per month in the case of the City of Bombay and the Taluka of Salsette and Rs. 35 per month in the case of the Municipal District and Cantonment of Karachi ”.

G. S. RAJADHYAKSHA,

Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council
of the Governor of Bombay.

11th February 1929.

MOTION TO AMEND STANDING ORDERS.

Motion No. I of 1929.

Under Standing Order IX (1) of Standing Orders of the Bombay Legislative Council, notice of the following amendment has been received from Mr. R. G. Pradhan, M.L.C.

To Standing Order X, 2 *add* a further proviso as follows :—

“ Provided further however that the President may, at his discretion, admit a resolution containing a preamble setting out concisely the grounds on which the resolution is proposed to be moved.”

G. S. RAJADHYAKSHA,

Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council
of the Governor of Bombay.

Bombay, 9th February 1929.

Monday, the 18th February 1929.

The Council met at the Council Hall, Bombay, on Monday, the 18th February 1929, at 2 p.m., the Honourable the President, Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI, Bar.-at-Law, presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Khan Saheb
 AHMAD, the Honourable MOULVI RAFTUDDIN
 AMBEDKAR, Dr. B. R.
 AMIN, Mr. H. J.
 ASAVALE, Mr. R. S.
 BALAK RAM, Mr.
 BHOSLE, Mr. M. G.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 BRANDER, Mr. J. P.
 BROWNE, Mr. D. R. H.
 CHANDRACHUD, Mr. N. B.
 DABHOLKAR, Sir VASANTRAO
 DAWOODKHAN SHALEBHOY, Mr.
 DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
 DESAI, the Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D.
 DESAI, Mr. J. B.
 DESHPANDE, Mr. L. M.
 DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
 DOW, Mr. H.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Sir
 GILFER, Dr. M. D.
 GINWALLA, Mr. F. J.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH, Mr.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HOTSON, the Honourable Mr. J. E. B.
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JANVEKAR, Mr. D. A.
 JITEKAR, Mr. HAJI IBRAHIM HAJI MAHOMED
 JOG, Mr. V. N.
 JONES, MAJOR W. ELLIS
 JOSHI, Mr. S. C.
 KALE, Rao Bahadur R. R.
 KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KNIGHT, Mr. H. F.
 LAIRD-MACGREGOR, Mr. E. G.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY ABDULLABHOY
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 MACKIE, Mr. A. W. W.

MACLACHLAN, Mr. D.
MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
MARTIN, Mr. J. R.
MARZBAN, Mr. P. J.
MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
MUNSHI, Mr. K. M.
NAIK, Rao Bahadur B. R.
NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
OLIVEIRA, Mr. F.
OWEN, Mr. A. C.
PATEL, Mr. J. R.
PETIT, Mr. J. B.
PRADHAN, the Honourable Mr. G. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
RIEU, the Honourable Mr. J. L.
SAKARLAL BALABHAI, Mr.
SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
SHETH, Mr. A. D.
SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
SHROFF, Mr. CHHOTALAL R.
SMART, Mr. W. W.
SMYTH, Mr. J. W.
SOLANKI, Dr. PURUSHOTTAMRAI G.
SURVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
SYED MUNAWAR, Mr.
THAKOR OF KERWADA, the
THORAT, Sardar S. B.
THORNBER, Mr. J. P.
TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
VANDEKAR, Rao Saheb R. V.
WASIF, Mr. G. A. D.
WILES, Mr. G.
WINTERBOTHAM, Mr. G. L.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. Swearing in of new members.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. Hotson, Mr. C. R. Shroff, Mr. G. L. Winterbotham, Mr. Balak Ram, Mr. A. W. W. Mackie, Mr. E. G. Laird-MacGregor, Mr. H. Dow, Mr. D. MacLachlan, Mr. C. S. C. Harrison and Mr. J. R. Martin then made the prescribed oath or affirmation of allegiance to His Majesty the King Emperor, and took their seats in the Council.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. I have now to nominate four Chairmen for this Session and I do so by nominating the following honourable members to serve as chairmen for the current session :—

1. Mr. A. C. Owen,
2. Mr. V. N. Jog,
3. Mr. M. S. Khuhro,
4. Mr. S. A. Sardesai.

I have next to announce the list of Acts which His Excellency the Governor General has given his assent to since the close of the last session. They are as follows :—

Acts further to amend the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888.

An Act to amend certain enactments and to repeal certain other enactments.

An Act to amend the Bombay University Act, 1928.

I have then to read to the Honourable House the reply of Sir Chunilal Mehta who was an honourable member of this House to the Secretary to the Legislative Council :

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 1394 dated the 3rd October 1928 forwarding a copy of the resolution passed by the Legislative Council on the 27th September 1928; as also a copy of the references made by the Honourable the President and the Members of the Council on that occasion. I would like to thank most sincerely the Honourable the President and all the Members of the Council for the extremely generous terms of the resolution and for the great kindness which has been shown to me in the speeches. I need hardly say that I am deeply touched by this appreciation of my humble services and I would like to express my gratitude to all the members for the consideration and support which they have always shown to me in my work as Minister, Member of Council, and Leader of the House.

Yours truly,

(Signed) C. V. MEHTA.

Now there is an important matter to which I have referred very often in the Council, but I should like to repeat and emphasise that to-day, and that is with regard to the seating arrangement.

Now that we have a House so well built for our purpose, with every consideration for the needs of honourable members, I think our seating arrangements must be perfect. And hereafter I should not like to see crowding in any of the benches. Honourable members will make it a point to occupy the benches, every one of them, so far as the accommodation is given there, and no more; and no honourable member will try to step into a seat when it has been already occupied by an honourable member. Now, in connection with this subject I have received a letter from the honourable member for the University of Bombay, and it is an expression of views which have been expressed to me on and off by honourable members individually in my chamber, and that is to divide

[The President]

the House into blocks for the various parties or members or groups, if possible. Now, if the House remembers, particularly the old members of the last Council, will remember that my predecessor, Sir Ibrahim, had considered the matter; and various considerations weighed with him, for which he did not really decide and take the duty upon himself of allotting any section of the House to any particular section of the members of the House. I think it is now time that we should come to some definite understanding regarding that. I had asked honourable members who had approached me, to meet if possible and come to a definite understanding and then approach me, and that I would be glad to allot blocks for particular parties. I shall read the letter of the honourable member Mr. Munshi, as that will explain the whole question :

“ Last sessions, I drew your attention to the irregular manner in which the parties in the Council are allowed to take their seats in the Council Hall. I may draw your attention to the matter once more, and particularly to the way in which the front opposition benches are scrambled for.

Under the Standing Orders, it is within your right to allot seats; and now that we are moving to a new hall of our own, I should request your attention to the allocation of seating arrangements for the parties as is done in the Assembly so that the leaders of the parties and their followers may sit in a compact block and the seats in front may be reserved for the leaders of each party.

I understand that in the Assembly, the largest party is given the seat at the top end and then the next largest party and so on, certain seats on the front benches being reserved for the leaders of these respective parties.

We have four principal parties in the Council, which from the point of view of numbers rank as follows :—

1. The Coalition Nationalist Party;
2. The Mahomedan Party;
3. The Non-Brahmin Party; and
4. The Swaraj Party.

Some arrangement of the kind which I have indicated would certainly lend dignity to the House and make party discipline more feasible. I shall feel obliged if you will be pleased to direct your attention to this question and give your directions, or at any rate convene a meeting of the leaders of all parties to discuss the question with you on the first day available.

Hoping to be excused for the trouble.”

I think this is a very opportune letter and I welcome it. I daresay, from the whispers I hear, that there may not be cut and dried and definite parties in this House. However, we must attempt to see that there are definite parties—either the whole House is one party or there are parties, and they must be definite. However, whatever that is, those were the considerations which, as I said, weighed with my predecessor. But I am going to be definite, and I accept the letter which the honourable member has sent to me. Now, rather than ask the honourable members the leaders to meet me, I would ask the honourable members the leaders to meet amongst themselves and let me know what decision they come to, by to-morrow or the day after, and for that I would suggest that the following members should meet. The Chief Secretary, from the Government side, then the honourable member Mr. Munshi, the honourable member Mr. Pahalajani, the honourable member Mr. Lalji Naranji, the honourable member Mr. Nariman, the honourable member Khan Bahadur Bhutto.....

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: May I suggest, Sir, that the Honourable Ministers may be transferred to their proper seats on this side? (Laughter).

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: When I complete the list, I think the honourable member will find that there would be certainly some who represent the Ministers. Then, the honourable member Mr. Winterbotham.....

Mr. G. L. WINTERBOTHAM: As representing what party?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: As representing the English section, at any rate. The honourable member Mr. Navle, the honourable member Mr. Joshi, the honourable member Mr. Gunjal, the honourable member Mr. Husseinbhoy Lalljee. (Interruptions). I want honourable members to be serious about this. If they wish me really to regulate the seats here, and as the honourable member who has written the letter desires that there should be a proper discipline about it, honourable members whom I mention here will take the matter up very seriously, meet as early as they can, and I would give them the liberty to consult any other honourable members they like from the House. I hope they will be able to report to me or come to a decision in the matter and let the House know as to what arrangements they wish me to follow, within two or three days.

The House will now adjourn and will await the arrival of His Excellency, which is, I presume, at 2-30. I might, before adjourning, mention that the order of business to-day is that after His Excellency's arrival and departure at 3, we take up the questions for half an hour, and finish by 3-30. We rise for tea at 3-30 till 4-15 (leaving time for rearranging the tables, etc.). After tea, the first thing is the honourable member Mr. Bole's resolution regarding His Majesty's recovery; and then the presentation of the budget at 4-30 for as long as the honourable member would like to take.

(House adjourned till 2-30.)

His Excellency the Governor was received by the Honourable the President on his arrival at the front door of the Legislative Council Offices. As soon as His Excellency reached the top of the steps, a procession was formed consisting of:

- (i) the Chobdar of the Legislative Council,
- (ii) two Chobdars of Government House,
- (iii) His Excellency's staff,
- (iv) the Honourable the President,
- (v) His Excellency the Governor.

The procession then proceeded to the Council Hall up to the dais, passing by the right hand lobby and entering the Hall by a side gangway. The Council Chobdar halted at the railing of the dais and laid down the Chob on the table. The members of the Council rose as soon as His Excellency entered the Hall and remained standing till he took his seat on the dais.

The staff preceded His Excellency up on to the dais and stood on either side of His Excellency's chair. There were two chairs on the dais, one for His Excellency the Governor on the right and, a little behind it, another for the Honourable the President on the left.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. His Excellency will be pleased to address the House.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH.

Rising to address the Council, His Excellency said :

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN,

As this is the first occasion on which you have been summoned to a session of the Legislative Council during my term of office, I desire at the outset to offer to all honourable members of this House a cordial welcome. Coming as you do from all parts of this Presidency, and voicing in your representative capacity the needs and aspirations of 20 millions of our fellow-subjects, it is my hope that through you I may have an opportunity, both from the debates in this House, as well as in a more informal manner, of gaining an insight into the conditions of each part of the Presidency and of the courses of action which you recommend in order to improve the lot of those whom you represent.

The grave anxiety which was felt by us all during the last few months on account of the severe and protracted illness of His Majesty the King-Emperor has now been in some degree allayed, and it is with feelings of thankfulness to Providence that we have learnt that His Majesty's progress has been well maintained in his new surroundings at Bognor, and that we may now hope for his complete recovery. During these anxious weeks I have received ample evidence of the loyal and heartfelt sympathy of all classes in this Presidency with His Majesty and the Royal House, and particularly with Her Majesty the Queen.

The fact which I think must be uppermost in the minds of all of us to-day is that the City of Bombay, which has everywhere a great reputation as a cosmopolitan centre, where men of many nations and of many castes and creeds have long worked together in peace for their own and the City's welfare, has recently passed through a period of disorder and turmoil. It is a matter of deep concern to myself that this should have occurred at the commencement of my term of office, and I need not assure you that I and my Government will do all that lies in our power to remove the causes of these unfortunate events, and to take such precautions as may be possible to prevent a recurrence of the horrors to which the law-abiding population of Bombay was subjected in the early days of the present month.

I do not now propose to discuss either the causes, or the various incidents, of these disturbances. Their termination is perhaps too recent for us to obtain an entirely unbiased view, and further, many of the incidents which either led up to or formed part of the rioting are at the present moment the subject of proceedings in the courts of law. I must however express my sincere sympathy with the relatives of those innocent persons who were done to death, and with those who were injured, and I would place on record my recognition of the efforts made by leading non-official gentlemen of all communities to restore peace and confidence in the City.

I desire also to express my appreciation of the very fine work performed by all the military forces under General Weir, and by the Police under Mr. Kelly, and of the tact and discretion which enabled them, with great patience and the use of no more force than was absolutely necessary, to deal with a situation which was, I believe, entirely unprecedented in the history of this City. I would also take the opportunity of conveying the thanks of Government to the St. John's Ambulance Brigade and to the staffs of the various hospitals for their unsparing efforts in helping the wounded, and I would also thank the many gentlemen who carried out the onerous duties of Honorary Presidency Magistrates during the disturbances.

I am sure that this Council, in view of these recent occurrences, will devote its most serious consideration to the adequacy of the Bombay City Police Force, and, should it be shown that the number of men or the number of police stations is not enough to perform the many and various duties which now fall to the lot of the police, that the Council will also consider the means of providing funds for an increase of this force. I would remind you that, owing to the lack of funds, Government have so far been unable to provide the staff necessary to inaugurate the Kala Chowki Police Station, for which the buildings are standing ready.

I must also mention here the references that have been made in other places to an enquiry into all the facts connected with these disturbances. The objection to conducting such an enquiry so long as many of the incidents form the subject of investigation in the courts will be at once apparent, but I and my Government have no desire to stand in the way of any such enquiry, conducted by a suitable agency and at a suitable time, if a sufficient body of responsible opinion puts forward a request that such a course should be taken. It will, however, be for those who advocate that course to consider whether the advantage of holding an enquiry is outweighed by possible disadvantages such as the continuance of bitter feelings which were better permitted to subside.

There are only two more things I think it right to say on this subject at this stage. The first is that it is the duty of all of us not to form hasty conclusions regarding any aspect of these events, but to abstain from any comments which might be in any way of a provocative character. The second is to express my fervent hope that peace and good will may be completely restored, and that the inhabitants of this great City may be spared from any recurrence of such a terrible crisis as they have recently experienced.

It is a happy coincidence that the first occasion I have had of addressing you is also the first occasion on which you meet in your own permanent building. The question of finding a suitable home for the Legislative Council has received the earnest consideration of Government since the commencement of the Reforms period but, as you are aware, it has been with great difficulty, and only by a fortunate accident, that we have been able to secure the desired accommodation at a reasonable cost. The new building will, I hope, add materially to your comfort and convenience and so facilitate the disposal of the business of the Council.

The main business that will be placed before you for your consideration is the budget for the coming year. The financial position which has been so unsatisfactory in recent years does not, I regret to say, show any improvement, and while it is true that the general trade statistics of the port during the past year have begun to reflect a distinct move in the upward direction, there is reason to fear that the recent disturbances, and the generally unsettled state of the principal industry of Bombay, are likely to have an adverse effect which may not disappear for some time. The estimates of revenue for the coming year are actually somewhat less than those of the current year ; and it has been only with the greatest difficulty, and not without placing the severest pressure on departments already accustomed in the past few years to severe pruning, that my Government has been able to present a balanced budget. With our working balances now at the minimum necessary for efficient administration, there has been no alternative left to us but to confine our activities for the most part to "carrying on," and it has not been possible to gratify, to any extent, the natural anxiety of those members of my Government who are in charge of what have come to be known as the "nation-building departments" to extend their activities.

It is also unfortunately true that the slump in land values in the City has postponed indefinitely the expectation of large capital receipts from newly developed lands ; and the burden which has been cast upon our revenues has prevented us from reaping the full benefit of the remission of the provincial contribution. That is a matter which we all deplore, and which we are all doing our best to set right. Two bills for the continuance of the Court-fees and Stamp Acts will again be put before you ; and in view of the financial situation I trust you will have no difficulty in passing them into law. A study of the actual situation as disclosed in the budget will, I think, convince you that the Presidency cannot at present afford to give up any of its existing sources of revenue.

The agricultural season of 1928 opened auspiciously, and there were excellent rains in July and August throughout the Presidency except in the East Deccan and East Karnatak. These tracts however received good rains in September and October. The result was that the kharif season was one of the best of the last ten years. In Sind the inundation of the river Indus was satisfactory in June and July, but the river fell in August, and the season did not prove so satisfactory as at one time seemed likely. Nevertheless the results of the kharif season and the prospects of the rabi season were so good that it was expected that the receipts from land revenue would exceed the budget estimate by over 12 lakhs. Unfortunately severe frosts occurred a few weeks ago in parts of Gujarat and Sind. The actual extent of the damage is now being investigated by the Collectors and their establishments, and in those tracts of Gujarat where the crop estimate is either wholly or partly based on the rabi crop, fresh estimates are being made. I need scarcely add that in such cases the collection of the revenue is in the meantime not being proceeded with. In Sind the remission rules provide for the whole or partial remission of the revenue in the case of such

calamities. Our sympathies are with those who have suffered loss in the affected areas, but it is gratifying to find that later reports indicate that the damage has not been so severe or so widespread as was at first feared.

I will now deal with the activities of Government in the Transferred Departments the portfolios of which are in the charge of my colleagues the Honourable Ministers. The departments for which they are responsible present one initial and insuperable difficulty in that they continue to make ever-increasing demands for more funds, while our revenues, so far from growing, show, as you know, a tendency to decrease. To meet these demands,—inevitable in these days when the general standard of living among all classes of the community is rising,—for more education, improved communications, better sanitation, more medical relief, with a falling revenue and dwindling balances, is a problem of the greatest difficulty, and I can only ask you, who are the holders of the purse strings, to give it your most careful attention. You will, I am sure, realise that for obvious necessities such as education, good roads, medical relief, water supply, etc., which cannot be provided out of our present sources of revenue, further funds must be found, and this can only be done by increasing taxation. I know that this can never be a popular task, but the provision of funds is in every country one of the main tests of democracy as a form of Government.

In the Education Department owing to lack of funds I regret to say that further expansion under the Primary Education Act must shortly come to a stop. For the next year it has been impossible to make any increase in the budget provision for this department over and above the current year's provision. This means that no new schemes for expansion can be sanctioned at present. I must also remind you that in the current year's budget 15 lakhs were provided for the expansion of primary education on the understanding that 2 lakhs would be raised by increasing the fees charged in Colleges and Secondary Schools. You will remember that in the course of the last budget debate this proposal was rejected. My Government are, however, compelled again to lay it before you for reconsideration, as unless it is approved, we shall again be forced next year to reduce our expenditure on primary education by about two lakhs. I may add that apart from this consideration, I believe that on its merits the proposal to increase the fees in Collegiate and Secondary Institutions is fully justifiable, and is in fact overdue. Higher education in the Presidency is undoubtedly suffering owing to lack of funds and one of the most suitable means of meeting this deficiency would be to increase, both in Government and in aided institutions, the fees which at present are unreasonably low.

During the year which is now coming to an end some important events in connection with education have taken place. By the passing of the new University Act, the Bombay University enters on a new era of development under a democratic constitution with greater freedom from official control. It will be interesting to watch the results of this legislation. Two Committees have been sitting—one to consider and

report on the reorganisation of primary and secondary school courses with a view to their co-ordination, and the introduction of vocational and industrial training in Primary and Secondary Schools ; and another to consider the question of physical training of pupils in primary and secondary schools. The reports of both these Committees are expected to reach Government before the close of this year, and it is hoped that they will afford useful guidance to Government in dealing with such important subjects.

As regards Medical Relief I am glad to say that the scheme inaugurated by my predecessor for the expansion of the J. J. Hospital is progressing satisfactorily. The Byramjee Jeejeebhoy Children's Hospital is already in use, and the Ellappa Balaram Pavilion will be occupied in April next. In spite of financial stringency it has been found possible to provide the funds for these two hospitals and also for the Dental Hospital and College. Under the scheme of expansion the share of Government in non-recurring expenditure for buildings will be nearly Rs. 15 lakhs, and the estimated annual maintenance charges, for which Government is solely responsible will amount to about Rs. 6 lakhs. These liabilities are heavy, and Government are now unable to incur any further liability, by accepting fresh donations for new hospitals, unless the donor is prepared to give a substantial sum as an endowment to cover the annual maintenance charges. Funds are required for other Government Medical Institutions both in Bombay and in the Mofussil, and, for want of staff, accommodation already provided in the G. T. Hospital and Central Mental Hospital, Yeravda, is actually lying vacant, a state of things which is far from satisfactory.

A noteworthy event in the Public Health Department during the current year was the appointment of Major Covell, I.M.S., to investigate the malarial conditions in Bombay City in consultation with the Malarial Advisory Committee. Major Covell has submitted a most interesting report which should be read by all those interested in the progress of Bombay. It presents a clear account of the conditions which govern the prevalence of malaria in the City, and contains recommendations regarding the measures which are required for its eradication. Major Covell has also shown by interesting statistics the economic effects of malaria on the progress and prosperity of the City. With the co-operation of all the Public Bodies concerned there appears to be no reason why malaria should not be eradicated in Bombay as it has been eradicated in the Panama Isthmus, and at Ismailia in Egypt, at a cost which, compared with the losses due to the existence of malaria, is insignificant, and I trust that the Corporation and other bodies concerned will co-operate in carrying out those measures which the report shows to be necessary.

In spite of our financial difficulties we have done our best to provide funds for the expansion of the activities of the Industries Department and thus to meet the wishes of this House. The special enquiries into the hand-weaving and tanning industries which were started in 1927 have been completed, and the reports of both the enquiries which have recently been submitted by the Director are under the consideration of

Government, and it is hoped that action on the recommendations made in these reports may be possible during the next year.

The improvement of communications by road and rail throughout the Province is a matter in which I know you are keenly interested, and I personally regard it as of great importance. The recommendations of the Indian Road Development Committee are doubtless known to you all, and if effect is given to them we shall be able to arrange for a very comprehensive programme of road development throughout the whole Presidency including Sind. With regard to Railways, the question of pushing forward the existing schemes for feeder lines and of selecting further practicable schemes has been engaging the attention of this Government for some time past. With a view to assist the Railway Administrations in furthering new schemes, ensuring that all information in connection with them is made available to the Railway Officers employed on traffic surveys, and speeding up generally the consideration of schemes and bringing them more effectively before the Railway Board, we have lately appointed a special officer of the Deputy Collector's grade in the Public Works Department Secretariat, who has already started work from last November.

In the matter of irrigation steady progress is being made in several directions. The Lloyd Dam at Bhatgar has been completed and was formerly opened in October last. Practically all the earthwork of the new Nira Right Bank Canal has been done and a portion of the canal has been opened for irrigation. Simultaneously, the work of enlarging and remodelling the old Nira Left Bank Canal is making satisfactory progress. The dam of the Visapur Tank in the Ahmednagar District has been completed and the canal and distributary system is being got ready for irrigation.

Investigations for remodelling the Mutha Right Bank Canal and for increasing the capacity of Lake Fife near Poona and surveys for a dam and pick-up-weir on the Markandeya River in the Karnatic are in hand. In Gujarat a project for a weir on the Meshwa is under preparation, and survey work in connection with the proposed storage reservoirs on the Panam and Watrak Rivers is nearing completion.

On the Lloyd Barrage and Canals scheme, in Sind, considerable and satisfactory headway has been made. The seven regulators which form the controls at the heads of the seven canals leading from the Barrage have been nearly completed. The superstructure of the five scouring sluices and one and a half spans of the Barrage proper on the Right Bank and seven scouring sluices and two and a half spans of the Barrage proper on the Left Bank have made good progress. The main floors, aprons and concrete paving have been completed for the whole area covered by these sluices and Barrage spans. The present season's work comprises the construction of 23 more spans of the Barrage in continuation of those already constructed. The cofferdams for the underwater work of these 23 spans have been completed. Simultaneously with this work at Sukkur, Canal excavation has been actively in progress, and about one-third has already been completed.

The schemes of the Development Department fall, as you are aware, into three groups :—

- (1) The Back Bay Reclamation Scheme.
- (2) The Industrial Housing Scheme.
- (3) Suburban Schemes.

As a consequence of the enquiry made in 1926 and the ensuing debate in the Legislative Council, the reclamation of blocks Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme was abandoned, and the works in connection with the scheme were restricted to the reclamation and development of blocks Nos. 1, 2 and 7, and the reclamation without development of block No. 8 together with a roadway along the existing foreshore connecting blocks Nos. 2 and 7.

In block 8 an area of about 20 acres at the South end was completed and transferred to the military authorities in November 1927. The murrum topping of the remaining portion of the block 8 is in progress and is expected to be completed this year when the whole of the remaining portion should be ready for transfer to the military authorities. The Government of India have already been requested to arrange for an inspection of the block.

The dredged filling of block No. 2 opposite Church Gate Station is in progress and is expected to be completed by May 1929 when dredging operations will finally cease, and the block will be completed by dry filling. The construction of a road along the common boundary of blocks Nos. 1 and 2 in extension of Church Gate Street, for which a provision of Rs. 1 lakh has been made in next year's budget, will be commenced shortly. The programme of further development operations, that is, road making and the installation of water-supply and sewerage systems depends on the final layout which is under the consideration of Government. The programme of reclamation and dry filling works in connection with the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme, as at present contemplated, is expected to be completed by 1931-32. The period required for development will depend on the rate at which lands can be sold to the public. The forecast of the present curtailed scheme was based on the assumption that development operations would continue on a diminishing scale till 1944-45 while the sales of developed plots would be completed by 1949-50. This forecast will be revised when the layout is settled.

During 1927 tenancies at Naigaum and Worli increased by 2,700 and the number of tenants in each of the four chawl areas was a record at the close of that year. The partial mill-strikes in January 1928 and the general strike in April led to an exodus of the mill-hands and when the strike ended 1,800 tenants had left the chawls. One thousand of the tenants returned to the chawls within six weeks of the end of the strike, but the unsettled industrial conditions since then have prevented further recovery and the number of tenancies to-day is 900 below the figure of 1st January 1928. The arrears of rent due from mill-hands also increased as a result of the strike and the collections for the financial year will be about Rs. 2 lakhs below those of the previous year.

In the suburban area the sales of land in housing schemes were better than in the previous year but except at Khar and for purposes of water-supply no works have been in progress.

Gentlemen, I have now passed in review, as is customary on this occasion, the more salient features of our activities during the past year, and of the existing conditions in the Presidency of Bombay. The work which we are doing and which you are doing can only bear fruit under peaceful conditions, and the results which we desire to see can only be achieved by community of effort, and provided we are all animated with the common purpose of maintaining peace and goodwill. Without this all our schemes of development and progress are bound to come to nothing. In the hope that the spirit of co-operation and peaceful progress may animate all your proceedings I leave you now to your deliberations. (Applause).

After the conclusion of His Excellency's address, a procession was formed, and His Excellency left the Hall in State.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order. Questions.

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY : REPAIR OF MORLAND ROAD.

Dr. B. R. AMBEDKAR : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bombay Municipal Corporation has not completely re-constructed Morland Road even once during the last 15 years, and, if so, the reasons therefor ;

(b) whether Government intend to take any steps in the matter ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the matter was represented to the Police Authorities and to the Municipal Corporation through representations and in the Press ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) It is not a fact that the road has not been repaired during the last 15 years. During the period 1914 to 1921 the whole road was repaired regularly and in 1920-21 the entire length was repaired and the surface dressed with a paint coat of tar at a cost of Rs. 11,640-15-3. Since 1922 substantial repairs have not been carried out, but extensive patching of the road surface has been frequently done. The Corporation has given its consent to the re-construction of the road with sheet asphalt on cement concrete foundations and the work will be taken in hand in due course.

(b) No.

(c) Complaints have been made to the Corporation.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN : Is it not a fact that the Bombay Corporation have got a definite road programme, and only certain roads are being selected for being taken in hand every year.

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : I do not know.

PRIMARY TEACHERS : ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCE.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state the amount of the yearly expenditure incurred in paying attendance allowance to primary teachers since the year 1923 ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : A statement showing the total provisional grants paid to District Local Boards and

Municipalities since 1923 on account of the allowance, which should correctly be described as duty allowance, is appended. These grants are subject to adjustment when the figures of actual expenditure are known.

Statement showing the total provisional grants paid to the District Local Boards and Municipalities since 1923.

Year.	Total provisional grant paid to the District Local Boards.	Total provisional grant paid to the Municipalities.	Total.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
1923-24	2,41,870	68,857	3,10,727	
1924-25	2,58,230	36,392	2,94,622	
1925-26	4,74,222	85,378	5,59,600	
1926-27	4,74,222	85,378	5,59,600	
1927-28	4,74,222	85,378	5,59,600	
Total ..	19,22,766	3,61,383	22,84,149	

KOLI NAUTCH PARTIES : SHINGA HOLIDAYS.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have received any representation from the patils and nakhwas of the Sona-Koli community in the city of Bombay and the districts of Thana and Kolaba praying for orders prohibiting persons taking out dancing parties known as Kolyacha Nautch during the Shingha holidays ;

(b) what have they decided in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) and (b) Attention is invited to the reply given to the Honourable Member on the 2nd October 1928, printed on page 407 of the Council Debates, Volume XXIV. From enquiries made, Government are satisfied that no action is necessary.

In the Thana District the District Magistrate has not received any complaints from the Koli community. The District Magistrate of Kolaba last year received a representation from the Sona-Koli Community of Alibag against the Police, who used to perform Kolyacha Nach in the streets. He prohibited such parties for the future and no further complaints have been received.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS : FREE SUPPLY.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have received resolutions requesting them to send to all public libraries all Government publications gratis, to make available to the public for reference all books in the possession of the Oriental Translator's department by placing them at some place in Bombay or Poona, and to set apart a sum of Rs. 25,000 for making grants to public libraries ;

(b) if so, what they have decided in the matter ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) A representation from the Honorary Secretary, Maharashtra Libraries Association, making the requests mentioned by the Honourable Member was received by Government.

(b) A copy of the reply given by Government is laid on the Council Table.

No. P. 134-2888-E,

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT :

Bombay Castle, 18th June 1928.

From

A. H. DRACUP, Esq.,

Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Educational Department ;

To

The HONORARY SECRETARY,
Maharashtra Libraries Association,
Poona.

Subject.—Encouragement of public libraries.

Sir,

With reference to your letter, dated the 23rd December 1927, addressed to the Honourable Minister of Education, on the subject of the encouragement of public libraries in this Presidency, I am directed by the Government of Bombay (Transferred Departments) to say that in view of the existing financial stringency Government regret that they are unable to comply with the request for an annual grant of Rs. 25,000 to the public libraries in this Presidency.

2. All registered libraries are at present supplied with Part I of the *Bombay Government Gazette* and copies of Press Notes and of the General Administration Report. Important libraries are supplied, in addition, with the principal Administration Reports which are issued by the various Departments. Your suggestion that all public libraries should be supplied with all Government publications would involve Government in considerable expenditure, as the total number of registered libraries alone in this Presidency is over 350. Government are, therefore, unable to give effect to it.

3. The books in the possession of the Oriental Translator to Government have always been at the disposal of the public.

Government consider that it is necessary that this library should be located in a central place like Bombay. They, therefore, regret that they are unable to accept the proposal to distribute them between various centres such as Poona, Ahmedabad and Dharwar.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) A. H. DRACUP,

Under Secretary to the Government of
Bombay, Educational Department.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES : SHRI SHIVAJI.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the attacks made by the following papers on Shri Shivaji Maharaja—

The *Madadgar* of Nadiad in the issue of the 26th August 1927 ;

The *Munsiff* of Surat in the issues of the 2nd December 1927, the 9th December 1927, the 16th December 1927 and the 30th December 1927 ;

(b) if so, what action they propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the answers given to Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan's questions* on the same subjects.

ENGINEERING COLLEGE, POONA : ADMISSION OF MR. PADWAL.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Mr. Padwal, B.Sc., a student of the Backward Classes, was refused admission to the Engineering College, Poona ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD : No. One Mr. Padwal did apply for admission to the college but he was an I.Sc. student and not a B.Sc. student. He, however, did not present himself for an interview when called and his place was filled by another candidate.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Is it not a fact that Mr. Padwal did not present himself as he was outside Bombay ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD : I am not aware of it.

LAND REVENUE RECEIPTS.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state the revenue derived under Major Head V, Land Revenue, from (1) Northern Division, (2) Central Division, (3) Southern Division, (4) Bombay Suburban District and (5) Sind for every year from 1920-21 to 1927-28 ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : The Honourable Member is referred to Appendix I to the Land Revenue Administration Reports for the Bombay Presidency and Sind for 1920-21 to 1926-27, copies of which are in the Council Library. A statement containing similar information for the year 1927-28 is placed on the Council Table.

Statement showing the revenue actually collected in each of the Divisions in the Presidency proper and Sind during the year 1927-28.

Northern Division.	Central Division.	Southern Division.	Bombay Suburban Division.	Sind.
Rs. 1,17,48,578	Rs. 1,85,03,585	Rs. 1,15,42,381	Rs. 2,41,312	Rs. 97,92,909

* Vide, page of this Volume.

POLICE BUILDINGS : OFFICES AND QUARTERS.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE (Satara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of places in each district where police offices and quarters were built after 1910 ;

(b) the number of places where such buildings were built and which are now vacant in each district owing to the subsequent abolition of police stations ;

(c) the number of years such buildings are lying vacant and what Government propose to do with them ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : A statement containing the information is placed on the Council Table.

Serial No.	Name of Police District.	Number of places in the District where police offices and quarters were built after 1910.	Number of places where such buildings were built and which are now not used by the Police owing to subsequent abolition of Police Stations or outposts.	Number of years such buildings are lying vacant and what it is proposed to do with them.
		(a)	(b)	(c)
1	Ahmedabad ..	16	1	The Police Office and lockup at Koth, Taluka Dholka, have been vacant since 1922. They are likely to be sold to the Thakore Saheb of Sanand, with whom correspondence on the subject is in progress.
2	Broach ..	9	Nil.	Nil.
3	Katra ..	15	Nil.	Nil.
4	Panch Mahals ..	17	Nil.	Nil.
5	Bombay Suburban District.	12	Nil.	Nil.
6	Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway.	21	Nil.	Nil.
7	East Khandesh.	27	Nil.	Nil.
8	West Khandesh.	30	Nil.	Nil.
9	Nasik ..	16	1	The buildings have been vacant since 1922. Government are considering whether they can be lent to other Departments requiring them.
10	Poona ..	10	1	A portion of the building has been vacant since 1922. The question of transferring it to other Government Departments or of letting it to the District Local Board is being considered by the Inspector General of Police in consultation with the District Superintendent of Police.
11	Surat ..	10	Nil.	Nil.
12	Thana ..	12	1	The buildings fell vacant in 1920. They have been utilised by the Forest Department since 1920.
13	Ahmednagar ..	16	Nil.	Nil.
14	Sholapur ..	10	2	All rooms in the police lines at Valang are occupied except one which is reserved for the use of officers going there for inspection and investigation purposes. All rooms in one of the two blocks of police lines at Valang are occupied except one which is reserved for officers going there for inspection and investigation purposes. The remaining block has been vacant since 1922. Enquiries are being made whether this block is required by any other Government Department or the District Local Board.
15	Satara ..	16	3	A portion of the police lines at Bhujaj has been vacant since 1922. Out of this a portion is required for the constable on public conveyance duty at Joshi's well. The remaining rooms are required by the Executive Engineer, Satara, for store house, etc.

Serial No.	Name of Police District.	Number of places in the District where police offices and quarters were built after 1910. (a)	Number of places where such buildings were built and which are now not used by the Police owing to subsequent abolition of Police Stations or outposts. (b)	Number of years such buildings are lying vacant and what it is proposed to do with them. (c)
				<p>A portion of the police lines at Khandala has been vacant from May 1928. It has been surrendered to the Public Works Department.</p> <p>Some of the police buildings at Malharpath, which were vacated in 1922, have been leased to the American Mission for 5 years from January 1928. Enquiries are being made whether a portion of the police lines at this place which has been vacant since 1923, is required by any other Government Department or the District Local Board.</p>
16	Belgaum ..	11	Nil.	Nil.
17	Bijapur ..	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
18	Dharwar ..	16	Nil.	Nil.
19	Kanara ..	13	Nil.	Nil.
20	Kolaba ..	12	1	The building has been vacant since 1923. Government propose to let it out to peons of other Departments.
21	Ratnagiri ..	7	1	The buildings became vacant in 1922 and have been in charge of the Public Works Department. It is proposed to transfer them to the Public Works Department for conversion into an Inspection bungalow.
22	G. I. P. and M. & S. M. Railways.	12	Nil.	Nil.
23	Karachi Head-quarters.	35	Nil.	Nil.
24	Karachi District.	27	5	The buildings at one of these 5 places have been lent to the District Local Board and those at the four remaining places have been vacant since 1922. Two of these buildings are being used by Police Officers as rest houses. In the Sind Police reorganisation scheme, which is under consideration, the local officers have recommended the reopening of the Police Stations and outposts at these places.
25	Sind Railways ..	1	1	The building has been lent to the Public Works Department.
26	Hyderabad (Sind).	19	Nil.	Nil.
27	Sukkur ..	18	2	Buildings at both these places have been lent to other Departments of Government.
28	Larkana ..	27	Nil.	Nil.
29	Thar Parkar ..	17	1	The building has been vacant since 1922. It has been transferred to the Public Works Department.
30	Upper Sind Frontier.	6	5	Buildings at two places have been lent to the District Local Board; the other buildings have been vacant since 1922. In the Sind Police reorganisation scheme, which is under consideration, the local officers have recommended the reopening of one of these police stations. Enquiries are being made whether the buildings at the remaining two places are required by other Government Departments.
31	Nawabshah ..	24	3	The buildings at all the three places have been lent to other Departments of Government.

EDUCATION IN SIND : COST PER PUPIL.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE (Satara District): Will Government be pleased to state the cost of education per pupil in Sind for the last five years giving such details thereof as are available?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: The accompanying statement giving the information required is laid on the table.

Table showing cost per pupil in various kinds of institutions in Sind for the last five years.

Sind.

	Cost per pupil in				
	1923-24	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28
<i>Institutions for boys</i>	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Arts Colleges	269	296	283	336	299
Professional Colleges ..	508	1,086	716	660	475
High schools	80	78	81	86	78
Middle schools	55	54	46	53	52
Primary schools	23	25	24	24	24
Special schools	33	101	78	74	85
Total	30	34	32	34	32
<i>Institutions for Girls</i>					
Arts Colleges .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Professional Colleges ..	..	..	..	..	..
High schools	124	124	113	108	104
Middle schools	79	107	101	93	102
Primary schools	25	27	25	25	25
Special schools	58	339	399	340	348
Total	31	35	33	32	33
Total (Institutions for boys and girls).	30	34	33	34	32
Total cost of educating a pupil (calculated on direct and indirect expenditure).	38	41	38	40	39

Mr. A. D. SHETH : In the column ' Institution for girls ' against the item ' special schools ' the cost is put down as Rs. 348 for 1927-28 for one pupil, which is fourteen times the cost of primary education. May I know the reason for such a high cost ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN : They are pupils of the training college.

LAND REVENUE ASSESSMENT, BARDOLI.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total assessment of land revenue levied on Bardoli Taluka after the last revision ;

(b) the total assessment of the same before the last revision ;

(c) the total amount due from the taluka for the year 1927-28 ;

(d) the total amount collected up to the end of May 1928 ;

(e) the total number of acres that have been forfeited up to the end of May ;

(f) the total number of acres that have been sold up to the end of May ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) to (f) In view of the altered conditions Government consider that no useful purpose would be served by collecting and compiling the information desired by the Honourable Member.

TENANCY REGISTERS : VILLAGE FORM NO. XII.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state with reference to any one village in each taluka of the Satara District—

(a) whether it is a fact that Village Form No. XII—Tenancy register (formerly *E patrak*) is filled by the village officers only when there is a registered kabulayat or when both the lessor and lessee come forward and state their terms and in the case of the inamdars having no kabulayats according to their usage ;

(b) whether Government are aware that all the above entries together are only between 5 to 10 per cent. of the total entries of the whole village ;

(c) whether it is a fact that even the entries mentioned in (a) are not filled in and that at the time of re-writing, the whole form No. XII does not show the terms of the contract ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) No. Unregistered and oral leases are also entered after enquiries have been made by Village and other Revenue Officers.

(b) No. The percentage varies from village to village and from year to year from 3 per cent. to over 50 per cent.

(c) No.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL, BOMBAY : ADMISSIONS.

Dr. M. D. GILDER (Bombay City, North) : Will the Honourable the Minister of Education be pleased to state who are eligible for admission to St. George's Hospital, Bombay ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Extract paragraphs 1 and 2 (a) to (f) on page 207 of the Bombay Civil Medical Code* which furnish the information required are quoted below :—

1. The following are the rules of the hospital :—

(1) The St. George's Hospital is a civil institution and is intended for the reception and treatment of sick Europeans and others of European habits whom the medical officer in charge may deem to be suitable patients for this hospital.

(2) The admission of patients for treatment in this hospital is regulated as follows :—

(a) All Warrant and Non-Commissioned Staff Officers attached to departments and military pensioners, their wives and families may be admitted on the recommendation of their superior officers or of the medical officer under whose care they may have been.

(b) Seamen and mariners of the Royal Navy may be admitted on the request of their superior officers or of the medical officer under whose care they have been.

(c) Merchant seamen may be admitted on the request of their Captain or of the Shipping Master or the Chief Presidency Magistrate.

(d) Sick persons belonging to the civil departments of Government may be admitted on the recommendation of the head of the office under whom they serve, or the medical officer under whose care they have been.

(e) Other sick persons may be admitted on the recommendation of their employers, or on payment in advance of hospital charges, or if unable to pay hospital charges, on the recommendation of the Chief Presidency Magistrate.

(f) Patients of any class may at any time be admitted at the discretion of the medical authorities of the hospital.

ROCKFELLER TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS.

Dr. M. D. GILDER (Bombay City, North) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) if any Rockefeller Travelling Fellowships were offered by the Government of India or by the Rockefeller Foundation to this Presidency in the years 1925-26, 1926-27 and 1927-28, respectively ;

(b) if so, how many officers belonging to the Medical and Public Health Services of this Presidency were deputed for further study in each of these years and what their names were ;

(c) whether the Government is satisfied that it gets its proper share of the Travelling Fellowships offered by the Rockefeller Foundation for Indian Officers ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) In the year 1925-26 applications for Rockefeller Travelling Fellowships were called for by the Government of India but the local Government did not make any nominations. No such Fellowships were offered in the years 1926-27 and 1927-28.

(b) and (c) These questions do not arise.

* Can be obtained on payment from the Government Book Depot, Bombay.

CO-OPERATIVE AUDITORS.

Mr. S. C. JOSHI : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of any countries in the world besides India in which the auditing work is undertaken by the Government without being responsible for the financial responsibilities involved ; if so, which country ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have undertaken the work of auditing the accounts of co-operative societies temporarily until suitable independent agencies come into existence to undertake the work ;

(c) if the answer to (b) above is in the affirmative, what steps Government have taken to train independent auditors specialising in co-operation ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) No.

(b) No. The Bombay Co-operative Societies Act, 1925, makes it incumbent on Government to have the accounts of every co-operative society audited at least once a year.

(c) Does not arise.

CO-OPERATIVE AUDITORS : RESPONSIBILITY.

Mr. S. C. JOSHI : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what the financial liabilities of the Government auditors under the Bombay Co-operative Societies Act are for errors of judgment and defalcations on their part and to whom they are responsible ;

(b) whether they have held that the Government auditor is an officer of the society whose accounts he audits ;

(c) if the answer to (b) above is in the negative, in what way he will be answerable to the society for errors and defalcations made by him ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) The personal liability of auditors under the Co-operative Societies Act is the same as that attaching to the auditors of commercial concerns under the ordinary civil law. They are responsible to the Registrar by whom they are authorised to audit.

(b) No.

(c) *Vide* reply to clause (a).

LABOUR EXCHANGES.

Mr. S. C. JOSHI : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have received any letter from the Government of India inviting their opinion and suggestion regarding the establishment of Public Employment Bureau or Labour Exchanges ;

(b) if so, what steps they have taken or propose to take on the letter ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government propose to appoint a small informal Committee including a few representatives of employers and employees to consider and report on the matter ;

(d) whether they propose to invite the opinion and suggestions from the various labour unions in the Presidency ;

(e) if the reply to (c) and (d) above be in the negative the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN HIDAYATALLAH:

(a) Yes.

(b)—(e) The communication in question was a demi-official letter and was not referred to any private bodies or individuals. The letter has been replied to. I am sorry the contents of the reply cannot be made public.

BENCH MAGISTRATES, SATARA : WORK DONE.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE (Satara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases that are pending for more than six months in the Court of the Bench Magistrates at Satara, together with the nature of the offences and the number of the witnesses examined and remaining unexamined in each case;

(b) the number of cases that had to be adjourned for want of a quorum during the last six months?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: (a) One. This was a case under section 500 of the Indian Penal Code in which nine witnesses were examined. No witness remained unexamined at the end of six months. The case was then pending only for judgment.

(b) Thirty-seven.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE: In view of the fact that the number of cases that had to be adjourned for want of quorum is 37, do Government intend to reconstitute the court of the Bench Magistrate at Satara?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: The District Magistrate has I believe advised these magistrates who have not been regular in their attendance to make some improvement. If they do not do so, it may be necessary to take other steps.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE: How long have the present benchers continued as magistrates?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: I am afraid I have not got that information here.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS, DHULIA AND SATARA : UNTOUCHABLE CLASS TEACHER.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE (Satara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a teacher belonging to the untouchable class was appointed in a municipal primary school at Dhulia and that on this account other people refused to send their boys to this school;

(b) how long that class was without any boys;

(c) to what caste these people belong;

(d) whether any such instances have occurred in the Satara district;

(e) if so, whether they will place on the Council table a list of the villages together with the reasons for the occurrence?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) No.

(b) and (c) In view of the reply given to (a) above these do not arise.

(d) Yes.

(e) The following is the list of villages where the appointments of teachers belonging to the untouchable classes have been made :—

Village		Castes
1. Koregaon	..	.. Dhor.
2. Borgaon (Walwa)	..	.. Mahar.
3. Burli (Tasgaon)	..	.. Chambhar.
4. Kudal (Jaoli)	..	.. Mahar.
5. Savarde (Tasgaon)	..	.. Mahar.

The percentage of trained teachers in the schools or classes for untouchables is 60 per cent. and for want of higher standards in these schools the need of trained teachers in ordinary schools is partly met by appointing teachers belonging to untouchable classes.

DISTRICT LOCAL BOARD, SATARA : ACCOUNTS IN MARATHI.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that the District Local Board, Satara, has passed a resolution that the accounts of the board should be kept in Marathi ;

(b) whether they are aware that the Collector has refused to forward the said resolution to the Commissioner ;

(c) whether Government intend to take any steps to meet the objections raised by the Collector, and if so, what such steps are ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) and (b) The District Local Board, Satara, passed in 1926 a resolution to the effect that the sanction of the Commissioner, Central Division, should be obtained to keep its accounts in Marathi, and asked the Examiner, Local Fund Accounts, to quote the rule or authority under which the sanction of the Commissioner was necessary in order to do so. The Examiner having referred the President to the Collector of Satara a reply was given intimating that there was nothing in the Bombay Local Boards Act, 1923, or the rules thereunder then in force which permitted a District Local Board to keep its accounts in a vernacular language and that it could only do so with the approval of the Commissioner after the draft rules framed by Government under clause (f) of section 133 of the Local Boards Act and published in their notification No. 3666, dated the 26th June 1926, at pages 102 to 208 of Part I-A of the *Bombay Government Gazette* dated the 8th July 1926 were finally sanctioned by Government. These draft rules were finally sanctioned by Government recently (*vide* Government Notification No. 3666, dated the 27th September 1928, published at pages 188-279 of Part I-A of the *Bombay Government Gazette* dated the 11th October 1928). Rule 4 (2) of these rules requires that the accounts should be kept in English or with the approval of the Commissioner in the vernacular of the District.

(c) The question does not arise.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : Whether it is a fact that the Collector refused to forward the resolution ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : If the honourable member gives notice I will enquire.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : The notice is already there. Part (b) of the question says :

“ whether they are aware that the Collector has refused to forward the said resolution to the Commissioner.”

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : So far as my information goes, the Collector did not withhold to the letter.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : The answer says :

“ The examiner having referred the President to the Collector of Satara a reply was given intimating that there was nothing in the Bombay Local Boards Act, 1923, or the rules thereunder then in force which permitted a district local board to keep its accounts in a vernacular language.”

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : The answer proceeds further on to say :

“ and that it could only do so with the approval of the Commissioner after the draft rules framed by Government.....”

It means that they must keep the account in English or with the approval of the Commissioner in the vernacular of the district, so that the district local boards have to approach the Commissioner for sanction to do so.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : These rules were promulgated in 1928, whereas this matter relates to the year 1926 when there were no rules permitting the Board to keep its accounts in the vernacular. May I know whether there was anything in the Act preventing the Board from keeping its accounts in the vernacular ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : The whole situation is this. If letters and accounts are in vernacular, they have to be translated when correspondence takes place between the Collector and the Board. Therefore, it is very convenient to keep the accounts in English ; that is the rule and that is convenient in practice.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : Regarding correspondence that rule may be all right. But there are scores of people who do not know English ; was it not therefore desirable to allow the Board to keep the accounts in vernacular, only the accounts and nothing else.

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : Whatever the desirability may be from the point of view of people who do not know English, the Auditor has to look into the accounts and he is not able to read accounts kept in the vernacular. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary for the purpose of auditing that the accounts should be kept in the language which the Auditor can understand.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : Will not Government be pleased to take steps to see that the Auditor knows the vernacular of the district ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : One auditor in the Secretariat will have to pass five languages, Sindhi, Gujarati, Marathi, etc. So, it is very difficult. The most convenient way is to get the accounts kept in English.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : May I know whether there are not subordinate officers under the Auditor who know the language of the district ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : Not necessarily ; the officers attached to the Auditor do not know the vernaculars of every division or district.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : Will Government be pleased to take steps to see that the subordinates attached to Auditors know the vernacular languages of the district to which they are attached ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : I presume it would be very expensive, and I cannot see my way to issue such an order.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : May I know whether the Auditors who examine the district local board accounts do not examine also the municipal accounts which are kept in the vernacular ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : I do not know if the municipal accounts are kept in the vernacular.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : The new rules will come into force only from 1st April 1929 ; according to the old rules vernacular accounts are permitted.

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : These are matters of mutual convenience ; and the practice has been to insist on accounts being kept in English.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : In that case, was it not proper for the Collector to forward the resolution to the Commissioner instead of dealing with it himself ? Was it not permissible for the board to pass a resolution and send it to the Commissioner through the Collector asking for permission to keep the accounts in the vernacular ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, Order : this is arguing.

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : There was no objection to the board passing a resolution and I do not think the Collector would have refused to forward it.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : If that is so, was it not wrong.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That is hypothetical. Next Question.

AYURVEDIC DISPENSARY, VADUJ.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the average daily attendance in the Ayurvedic dispensary at Vaduj in the Satara district for every month in the year 1926-27 and in 1927-28 up to June 1928 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that during the last 6 months the stock of medicines has not been able to meet the demand ;

(c) if so, what steps Government intend to take to remove this defect ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) A statement received from the President, District Local Board, Satara, furnishing the information asked for is appended.

(b) The President, District Local Board, Satara, reports that the stock of medicines in this dispensary did not fall short of the demand during the 6 months ending June 1928.

(c) The President reported in August 1928 that the new stock of medicines had been supplied for 1928-29. No action on the part of Government is necessary as the dispensary is established and managed entirely by the District Local Board.

Statement showing the daily average attendance at the Vaduj Ayurvedic dispensary for every month in the year 1926-27 and in 1927-28 up to June 1928.

1926-27				1927-28			
Month		Average daily attendance		Month		Average daily attendance	
April	1926	..	22	April	1927	..	24
May	"	..	30	May	"	..	14
June	"	..	23	June	"	..	21
July	"	..	29	July	"	..	27
August	"	..	21	August	"	..	19
September	"	..	31	September	"	..	18
October	"	..	22	October	"	..	20
November	"	..	30	November	"	..	28
December	"	..	32	December	"	..	21
January	1927	..	20	January	1928	..	23
February	"	..	21	February	"	..	21
March	"	..	32	March	"	..	68
				April	"	..	97
				May	"	..	98
				June	"	..	100

GRAM PANCHAYAT ELECTION : MAHUDHA.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the date on which the election of the "gram panchayat" of Mahudha in the Kaira district took place ;

(b) the name and the designation of the polling officer ;

(c) whether it is a fact that only those voters who arrived before 11 a.m. on the day of the election were admitted to the dharamsala there and that the doors of the dharamsala were subsequently closed ;

(d) whether it is a fact that all those voters who came in after 11 a.m. were not allowed to vote ;

(e) whether it is a fact that no voting took place till late in the afternoon ;

(f) whether it is a fact that the Muslim candidates and the Muslim voters were not allowed to come out of the dharamsala for any purpose ;

(g) whether it is a fact that the Muslim candidates and their voters left the dharamsala and were not allowed to re-enter it to get their votes recorded ;

(h) whether it is a fact that the Muslims made an application to the Collector in the matter ;

(i) what steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) 18th June 1928.

(b) Mr. Ranchhodlal D. Modi, Mamlatdar, Nadiad.

(c) Yes. The time fixed for holding the election was 11 a.m.

(d) Yes.

(e) No.

(f) No. As a matter of fact the Muhammadans left the place by way of protest when after the doors had been closed some Muhammadans who attempted to enter the Dharamsala through an opening in one of the walls were prevented from doing so.

(g) The Muhammadans left the place of their own accord before the voting took place.

(h) Yes.

(i) Government do not propose to take any action in the matter.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI : Under what rules were these voters not allowed to enter the polling room after 11 a.m. ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : The voters are allowed in up to a particular time ; if people come after that time they cannot be allowed ; and if they try to go in they must be prevented.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI : My question is, when the polling time was between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., why were the voters not allowed to enter between 11 and 5.

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : If it were the ballot system that would be the position ; but here the voters were all to collect together and after they collected together the presiding officer was to ask them on which side they would vote, these voters could not be admitted after the time fixed.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : May I know whether instructions were issued by the officer as to how the voting would take place ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : Instructions were given by the officer in charge as to how he was going to conduct the election and those instructions were known to everybody.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI : So, it is clear that the polling officer took the law in his own hands.

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : He did not ; people wanted to get in through an aperture in the wall after the time fixed which he did not allow.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Will Government state whether the action of the Mahomedans was illegal.

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : Absolutely.

NOTIFIED AREA COMMITTEE, RAJAPUR.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Secretary of the Rajapur Notified Area Committee was formerly getting a salary of Rs. 60 per mensem

and is now being given Rs. 100 though the control of the primary education no longer lies with him ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the income of the Ratnagiri, Chiplun and Vengurla Municipalities is more than double that of the Rajapur Notified Area Committee ;

(c) what salary is drawn by the chief officers and the secretaries of these municipalities ;

(d) whether the Committee has taken any steps to secure the service of a person on Rs. 60 per mensem by advertising for the post ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) The present Secretary was a clerk in the subordinate Revenue service of the Ratnagiri District and his services were lent to the Committee in 1915. In view of the general revision of pay of the Subordinate Revenue establishment in 1920 his pay was raised to Rs. 50 per mensem in the scale of Rs. 30—5/2—80. He now gets Rs. 75 *plus* Rs. 15 as deputation allowance. In addition the Committee contributes Rs. 18-12-0 towards his leave and pension allowances.

(b) Yes.

(c) The salary of the Secretary of the Chiplun Municipality is Rs. 65 per mensem and that of the Chief Officers of the Vengurla Municipality and of the Ratnagiri Municipal Borough is Rs. 70 and Rs. 120 per mensem, respectively.

(d) No. As the deputation of the present incumbent expires on 31st March 1930, no necessity has arisen for securing the services of another man by advertisement.

HIGH COURT : EFFICIENCY OF STAFF.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN (Bombay City, South) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have received any complaint during last two years regarding inefficiency of any of the officers, of any of the subordinates of these officers, of the different departments of the High Court of Bombay ;

(b) if so, which particular department has come under the notice of the Government in this direction ; and what measures Government have taken or caused to be taken to ameliorate the same ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

HIGH COURT OFFICERS : ATTORNEYS.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN (Bombay City, South) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any act of a Superior Officer or Officers of the High Court of Bombay condoning wrongful action of any attorney or attorneys has been brought to their notice within the last two years ;

(b) if so, what measures they have taken, or propose to take in this matter ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT, KARACHI: MUHAMMADANS.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state the total number of Muhammadans, drawing salary between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50, Rs. 50 and Rs. 100, Rs. 100 and Rs. 150, Rs. 150 and Rs. 200, Rs. 200 and Rs. 250, Rs. 250 and Rs. 300, Rs. 300 and Rs. 350, Rs. 350 and Rs. 400, Rs. 400 and Rs. 450, Rs. 450 and Rs. 500, in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner of Sind and in the Small Causes Court of Karachi?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON:

Number of Muhammadans.		Salary.
Court of the Judicial Commissioner of Sind—		
9	..	Between Rs. 25 to 50
8	..	50 to 100
4	..	150 to 200
Court of Small Causes, Karachi—		
4	..	Between Rs. 25 to 50
1	..	50 to 100

TATTA MUNICIPALITY: MUNICIPAL MONEY.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that Mr. Harchandrai, the president of the Tatta municipality, has been spending the municipal money without obtaining any sanction of the municipality;

(b) whether they are aware that Mr. Harchandrai has brought the municipality to a state of bankruptcy by his extravagant schemes;

(c) whether it is not a fact that he has been criticised for all this by the Collector of Karachi and the Government Auditors;

(d) whether their attention has been drawn to the articles published in *Hindoo* of Hyderabad, Sind, on 5th April 1928 and *Kesari* of Karachi on 18th February, 25th February and 10th March 1928 and *Al Wahid* of Karachi on 20th March, 1st April, 4th April and 6th April 1928: If so, whether they intend to call for reports in the matter?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI: (a) Allegations to that effect have been made but not substantiated by specific cases. The latest audit notes on record do not disclose any such action on the part of Mr. Harchandrai.

(b) The Municipality has been brought to a state of bankruptcy by the factious spirit prevailing in that Municipality. No schemes, extravagant or otherwise, have come up before the Collector.

(c) The Municipality and not Mr. Harchandrai personally has been the subject of adverse remarks by the Collector or the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.

(d) No. The various allegations made against Mr. Harchandrai are being inquired into.

JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER'S COURT, SIND : TEMPORARY CLERKS.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are several Mahomedan clerks who, for the last three years or so are working in temporary posts in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner in Sind;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that when permanent posts were being filled these temporary clerks were not given any consideration and the new men were taken on;

(c) if the reply to (b) be in the affirmative, why the Departmental men were not given any consideration and whether Government intend to take any steps in the matter.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: (a) No.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER'S COURT : SECOND REGISTRAR.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Retrenchment Officer appointed by Government had suggested in his report that the post of the Second Registrar in the Judicial Commissioner's Court was unnecessary and should be abolished;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to abolish this post;

(c) whether it is a fact that subsequent to this report formal Insolvency and execution work was taken away from various branches and entrusted to him with a view to justify the existence of the post;

(d) if the reply to (c) be in the affirmative, what steps Government intend to take in the matter.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: (a) Yes.

(b) None.

(c) No. The Retrenchment Officer recommended the appointment of an Assistant Judge as Registrar in place of the present Registrar who is a Subordinate Judge, in order to relieve the Judicial Commissioners of administrative work. It was decided however to retain the Second Registrar for this purpose, and not to appoint an Assistant Judge as Registrar.

(d) Does not arise.

SUB-INSPECTORS OF POLICE, KARACHI.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that sub-inspectors of police in the city of Karachi are wholly responsible for the prevention and detection of crimes in their beats;

(b) whether it is a fact that sub-inspectors have to do night duties thrice or four times (including jungle parties) a week besides their regular work;

(c) if the reply to (b) is in affirmative whether they get any allowance for it; if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that sergeants do not do night duties and do not do work as responsible as that done by the sub-inspectors in the city of Karachi;

(e) whether it is a fact that according to the police rules sergeants are below the grade of sub-inspectors;

(f) if the reply to (d) is in the affirmative, the reasons for their higher pay;

(g) whether they intend to give better privileges to the sub-inspectors of the city of Karachi similar to those given to the sub-inspectors of police of the city of Bombay commensurate with their duties, responsibility and capabilities?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: (a) The Sub-Inspectors of Police in Karachi City are in charge of sections and work under the direct supervision of Inspectors from whom they take orders. They cannot, therefore, be regarded as wholly responsible for the prevention and detection of crime in their respective beats.

(b) Ordinarily a Sub-Inspector has to sleep two nights at the Police Station, and to do one night round (jungle party) per week.

(c) In view of the fact that the performance of night rounds is a part of a Police Officer's duty whether in Karachi or elsewhere the question of granting any extra allowance for such work does not arise.

(d) Sergeants do perform night duties, and in their particular sphere of duty do work as important as that of a Sub-Inspector.

(e) Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors of Police have distinct grades of their own and both are eligible for promotion to the grade of Inspectors of Police.

(f) The scales of pay are fixed with regard to the securing of suitable recruits.

(g) No. Government consider that the present scale of pay and allowances of Sub-Inspectors in the City of Karachi is adequate.

VISITS OF THE PORT HEALTH OFFICER, KARACHI, TO THE PILGRIMS' CAMP.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Port Health Officer, Karachi, is expected to look after the medical staff and sanitary arrangement at the Pilgrims' Camp, Karachi;

(b) whether it is a fact that he resides three miles away from the Camp and so he gets Rs. 60 per mensem as conveyance allowance;

(c) whether it is a fact that he pays visits to the Pilgrims' Camp;

(d) if the reply to (c) is in the affirmative, the number of visits during the last outgoing Haj season?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSAIN HIDAYATALLAH: As the Honourable Member is aware, the Local Government are merely the Agents of the Government of India in regard to this matter. Their information is, however, as follows:—

(a) The Port Health Officer supervises the Medical Staff and exercises general supervision over the sanitary arrangements for which the Karachi Municipality is primarily responsible.

(b) The Port Health Officer lives at a distance of between 3 and 4 miles from the Pilgrim Camp. He does not draw any conveyance allowance. He, however, gets a pilgrim duty allowance of Rs. 50 per mensem.

(c) Yes.

(d) Once a week and in the height of the Haj season twice a week.

DISTRICT LOCAL BOARD, KARACHI : THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a vote of censure was proposed against the President of Karachi District Local Board by some of the members of the board as he declined to resign the Presidentship as promised by him ;

(b) whether the Collector of Karachi interviewed some of the said members and forced them to withdraw the said vote of censure against the President ;

(c) if so, the reasons for the interference by the Collector in such matters ;

(d) whether Government are aware as to whether the President intends to resign or to stick to office and also to stand for election for the next term.

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The President has stated that he has no intention of resigning his office during the present term of the Board but that whether or not he will stand for election for the next term will depend upon his inclination at the time.

SIMON COMMISSION AND LOCAL SELF-GOVERNING BODIES.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have received any communication from either the Simon Commission or the Government of India on the subject of the appointment of a Committee, similar to the Hartog Committee, to inquire into the working of Local Self-Governing Bodies ;

(b) if so, whether they will be pleased to place it and their reply thereto on the Council Table ?

The Honourable Mr. RIEU : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

GOVERNMENT PRESS : SUPERINTENDENT.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the fact that the working of the office of the Superintendent of the Government Press is the subject of public comment on the ground that its business methods are far from satisfactory ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Secretary, Deccan Sabha, Poona, sent an order for 8 copies of the Small Holdings Bill before the commencement of the last July-August session of this Council, at which the Bill was going to be considered, and that he has neither received the copies nor any explanation as to why they are not available ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSAIN HIDAYATALLAH :

(a) No.

(b) The Printing and Stationery Department are not able to trace the receipt of any such order from the Secretary of the Deccan Sabha, Poona, and on a reference to the latter, he has replied that he has no record of the date of despatch of the order.

ACTION ON RESOLUTIONS.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the fact that in some provinces it is the practice of the Government concerned to publish in their Gazette the action taken on the several resolutions considered by the Council ;

(b) whether Government have considered the desirability of introducing that practice in this Presidency ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) Government have no information. As regards (b), I substitute the following reply :—

Government cannot bind themselves to announce any decision which they may consider necessary to take but it is always open to any honourable member at the beginning of a new session to interrogate Government as to their action to any Resolution passed at the last session.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT OFFICERS : DISTRICT LOCAL BOARDS.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact, that on or after the transfer of control of Primary Education to local Bodies, some officers of the Educational Department were transferred to the District Local Boards without their previous consent as required by Fundamental Rule 110 (a) ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such officers are being told that it would not be possible to provide for them, on their reversion from foreign service, after the expiry of the period of three years for which they have been lent and that they would therefore have to retire even before their date of superannuation ;

(c) if the answer to the above questions be in affirmative the reasons therefor.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) The previous consent of officers transferred to Local Authorities was not obtained, nor is such required by Fundamental Rule 110 (a) which states that an officer may not be transferred to foreign service against his will. As no officer protested on being asked to join his appointment with a Local Authority, it was assumed that he was willing to be transferred.

(b) They have been informed that it will not ordinarily be possible to provide for them on their reversion.

(c) As the result of the introduction of the Bombay Primary Education Act, 1923, the administration of Primary Education has been transferred from the Government Educational Department to the Local Authorities. Consequently, a large number of Government appointments have had to be abolished, and the alternative was to transfer surplus officers to Local Authorities or to retire them under Article 426 of the Civil Service Regulations.

JEJURI : PILGRIM TAX.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to give with regard to the municipality of Jejuri in taluka Purandar, district Poona, the following information—

(a) whether a tax on every pilgrim is levied by the municipality there ;

(b) if so, the rates of the tax per head since it was started ;

(c) if there has been any subsequent change in the rates, when it was made and with what object ;

(d) whether that object has been fulfilled wholly or partially ; if so, when and how ;

(e) the amounts of this pilgrim tax collected from year to year separately ;

(f) for how many and what days during the year the tax is collected ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) Yes.

(b), (c) and (f) In 1868 Government sanctioned the rules of the Municipality by which a poll tax was sanctioned at the following rates :—

Adults	..	..	.. 2 annas
Children	..	..	.. 1 anna
Children too young to walk alone	..	..	.. free

one payment was sufficient for all the days during which any one jatra (pilgrimage) lasted.

In 1872 the rates were reduced as under :—

Adults	..	..	.. 6 pies.
Children between 5 and 12	..	..	.. 3 pies.

In 1883 with a view to make arrangements for ample water supply these rates were enhanced as under :—

Adults	..	..	.. 2 annas.
Children between 5 and 12	..	..	.. 1 anna.

The days for the levy of this tax were fixed as under :—

Fairs held on Marghashirsha Shudh 3rd	..	..	.. 6 days.
to 8th	..	..	.. 6 days.

Fairs held on Poush Shudh 11th to	..	..	.. 8 days.
Vadya 3rd	..	..	.. 8 days.

Fairs held on Magh Shudh 11th to Vadya	..	..	.. 8 days.
3rd	..	..	.. 8 days.

Fairs held on Chaitra Shudh 13th to	..	..	.. 8 days.
Vadya 5th	..	..	.. 8 days.

In 1897 the levy of the tax on the following days in addition to the above days was allowed :—

All the Saturdays and Sundays excepting the prescribed fair days in the months of Marghashirsha, Poush, Magh and Chaitra.

All the Saturdays and Sundays including the 15th day in the month of Vaishakha.

In 1908 they were further enhanced as under :—

Adults 3 annas.

Children between 5 and 12 1½ anna.

The object of increase in the rates was to provide funds for water supply and to liquidate a loan of Rs. 7,500 which the Municipality took from Government for this purpose.

(d) The object has not yet been fulfilled, as the financial condition of the Municipality is still unsound.

(e) The accompanying statement gives the information required.

Statement showing the figures of the Pilgrim Tax Revenue from the year 1868-69 to 1927-28. of the Jejuri Municipality, Poona District.

Year	Pilgrim Tax (figures given by the municipality)	Figures printed in the Administration Report
1	2	3
	Rs. a. p.	
1868-69	1,296 10 0	
1869-70	1,137 4 0	
1870-71	30 6 0	
1871-72	2,531 0 0	
1872-73	1,973 0 0	
1873-74	3,237 0 0	
1874-75	1,475 0 0	
1875-76	2,381 0 0	
1876-77	1,504 2 6	
1877-78	1,121 0 0	
1878-79	1,475 0 0	
1879-1880	1,720 0 0	
1880-81	2,275 0 0	
1881-82	3,510 0 0	
1882-83	2,413 0 0	
1883-84	1,734 9 6	
1884-85	5,854 0 0	
1885-86	3,115 12 0	
1886-87	7,109 15 0	
1887-88	5,678 15 6	
1888-89	5,749 8 0	
1889-90	5,628 4 3	
1890-91	5,711 15 3	
1891-92	5,080 7 0	
1892-93	5,565 11 6	(The figures for the years from 1892-93 to 1898-99 inclusive tally with the figures printed in the Administration Report.)
1893-94	5,795 8 0	
1894-95	5,744 12 0	
1895-96	9,065 13 0	
1896-97	553 13 0	
1897-98 .. .. .	.....
1898-99	658 8 0	Rs. a. p.
1899-1900	1,115 2 0	1,122 14 0
		1,900 0 0

Year	Pilgrim Tax (figures given by the municipality)	Figures printed in the Administration Report
1	2	3
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
*1900-01	1,383 10 0	.....
1901-02	2,047 3 0	2,074 3 0
*1902-03	2,241 4 0	.....
*1903-04	3,916 14 0	.....
*1904-05	1,301 7 0	.....
*1905-06	3,446 2 0	.....
1906-07	3,394 6 0	3,516 5 0
1907-08	3,294 10 0	3,389 0 0
1908-09	4,097 7 6	4,173 0 0
1909-10	7,469 7 9	7,538 0 0
1910-11	6,610 3 6	.....
1911-12	4,657 10 0	4,708 0 0
1912-13	4,707 12 0	4,785 0 0
1913-14	5,844 4 6	5,945 0 0
1914-15	7,476 7 6	7,599 0 0
1915-16	3,019 12 6	3,103 0 0
1916-17	4,567 5 0	4,643 0 0
1917-18	4,415 11 6	4,494 0 0
1918-19	3,798 4 0	3,859 0 0
1919-20	3,522 9 0	3,538 0 0
1920-21	7,355 0 6	7,607 0 0
1921-22	9,005 8 0	9,026 0 0
1922-23	9,511 13 0	10,028 0 0
1923-24	7,795 15 6	8,291 0 0
1924-25	8,930 7 0	9,419 0 0
1925-26	10,268 8 6	10,909 0 0
1926-27	7,979 2 6	8,527 0 0
*1927-28	7,404 0 0	.....

* These figures tally with the figures printed in the Administration Report.

INAMDAR OF CHINCHOLI : REVISION SURVEY SETTLEMENT.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether in the inam village of Chincholi, taluka Bhimthadi, district Poona, a first revision settlement has been sanctioned by Government Resolution, Revenue Department, No. 9304/24, dated 2nd November 1927 ;

(b) whether the inamdar was afterwards served with a jahirnama, dated 9th January 1928, by the Collector of Poona ;

(c) whether the inamdar was consulted or had given his consent prior to the commencement of the operation of the said settlement ;

(d) whether the original rates for bagayat and jirayat lands in the said village were Rs. 1-4-0 per acre ;

(e) whether, as the result of the revision, the rates per acre for both sorts of lands were reduced to Rs. 1-2-0.

(f) if so, the reason for so reducing the rates at the revision ;

(g) whether the inamdar has protested and communicated to Government his unwillingness to accept these new rates ;

(h) if so, whether the new rates have been cancelled and the old ones ordered to be continued.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) to (e) Yes.

(f) Because the rental statistics and the prevailing maximum rate in the surrounding villages did not justify the retention of the former rate of Rs. 1-4-0.

(g) There are two inamdars in this village. One of them has accepted the new rates as they do not reduce his total revenue. The other has protested.

(h) No. Although the new rates are lower than the old ones the total revenue of the village has not decreased, but has increased by Rs. 20.

INAM VILLAGES : SUMMARY SETTLEMENT SANADS.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to place on the Council table a list of inam villages (stating the talukas and districts in which they are situated) in respect of which summary settlement sanads have been issued under Acts II and VII of 1863, to the inamdars concerned, and stating against each of them whether such sanads have been accepted by them or not ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : The compilation of the list would be a laborious task and Government regret their inability to undertake it. If the honourable member so desires, he can obtain the information himself from the Land Alienation Registers which will be placed at his disposal for the purpose in the Alienation Office, Poona.

GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of posts in the cadre of graduate teachers in Government secondary schools in the Central and Southern Divisions which have not been permanently filled ;

(b) the number of teachers who have been kept on probation on those posts ;

(c) why they are not confirmed in those posts though they have passed the B. T. examination ;

(d) whether Government are aware that it is a great hardship to those teachers if they, having put in more than four years' service in the department, are not confirmed in their posts ;

(e) when they propose to confirm such teachers in their posts ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) 44 *

—			Vacant	Filled on probation	Total
Central Division	..	..	4	+ 18	22
Southern Division	..	..	7†	+ 15	22

* Including posts in Training Institutions and excluding *special posts*.

† There are no substitutes in two of these seven vacancies.

(b) 33 (Central Division 18 *plus* Southern Division 15).

(c) When teachers are selected for deputation to the Secondary Training College, they are clearly warned that no guarantee of permanent service can be given them even after their training in view of possible reversion of inspecting officers.

(d) Leave is admissible to probationers under the leave rules which would be applicable to them if they had held their posts substantively. Probationary service also counts towards increments. Probationary teachers are not therefore at any immediate disadvantage except perhaps they have not the same security of tenure as permanent men.

(e) Owing to the uncertainty of the effect of the transfer of control of primary education to local authorities under the Bombay Primary Education Act, 1923, on the strength of the Government Inspecting staff, it cannot be definitely stated at this stage when these probationers will be confirmed.

N.B.—The information given in the above reply was collected in September 1928.

MARATHA HISTORY : SOURCE BOOK.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Professor R. P. Patwardhan was appointed to prepare a part of the Source Book of the Maratha History ;

(b) if so, whether the Source Book Committee had been consulted and their approval to his appointment obtained ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) Yes.

(b) The Source Book Committee was not consulted as it had practically ceased to function and its members had scattered when it was decided to entrust the work of compilation of the Sources of Maratha History to Professor R. P. Patwardhan.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : We will stop here. The House will now adjourn for tea till quarter past four.

(After recess.)

HIS MAJESTY THE KING'S ILLNESS AND RECOVERY

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order. The honourable member Mr. Bole will move his resolution.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Sir, the resolution I wish to move runs as follows :

This Council requests His Excellency the Governor of Bombay to convey to His Majesty the King Emperor an expression of the deep sympathy of the members of this House in His Majesty's long and continued illness and their sincere and earnest wish for his speedy recovery.

In moving this resolution I need say very little. The place the King Emperor occupies in the commonwealth of nations known as the British Empire is a unique one, and it is the one cementing force that keeps together the various units not always in harmony nor agreeing in their political and economic interests. The King Emperor is, therefore, destined to perform the most delicate function of harmonising these discordant elements. The person called to perform this task has a heavy responsibility, which few can be said to be equal to. His Majesty

[Mr. S. K. Bole]

King George V has by all accounts been equal to this task. It is, therefore, a great good fortune that he has survived this calamity, and it is in the interests of the British Empire that he should be spared long. We Indians have a particular reason to be grateful to him. The reforms which were inaugurated in the year 1921 had the entire sympathy of His Majesty the King Emperor, and the interest he took and the proclamation he issued on the eve of the reforms are well known to all of us. His Majesty has earned our gratitude, and this resolution, which I hope this Council will accept, is but a small recognition of what we owe to him.

Quetsion proposed.

Khan Bahadur S. N. BHUTTO (Larkana District): Sir, it is not possible for us to express adequately the feelings and anxiety that we subjects of His Imperial Majesty have felt during his long illness. I do not think, Sir, there could have been a single soul in the crores of His Majesty's subjects who could read and write, who had not anxiously been awaiting for the favourable bulletin every day about the progress of His Majesty's recovery. Sir, our thanks are due to Almighty God, who has listened to the prayers of his subjects all over, and our good King has been saved and has been making satisfactory progress towards recovery. On behalf of Muslim members of this Council, I associate myself with this resolution.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Mr. President, I feel sure that the sentiments expressed in this resolution will be sincerely echoed by each and every honourable member of this House. His Majesty the King Emperor is a symbol of unity of the British Commonwealth of Nations. He stands above party politics and he stands also above any controversy between Great Britain and this country. We are all aware that His Majesty takes very keen interest in the welfare and progress of the people of this country. I remember, Sir, the speech which His Majesty made as Prince of Wales in the year 1904 or 1905 when he returned from his tour in this country. In the historic Guildhall speech which he made on his return to England, he appealed for the infusion of a larger measure of sympathy in the administration of this country. I for one have not the slightest doubt that sympathy has been the keynote of His Majesty's dealings or treatment of every question connected with this country. I believe, I feel confident, that I am echoing the sentiment of every honourable member when I say that by the grace of God His Majesty may soon be restored to perfect health and that his reign will witness the growth and development of this country as an equal member of the British Commonwealth of Nations. With these remarks, I sincerely support the resolution that has been moved.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI (Indian Merchants' Chamber): Sir, since the war the world has been so much stirred that there are several factors for which all over, the people of the world all over, are passing through many crises. At such a time the illness of His Majesty the King Emperor was a great blow to all the members of the Empire, and every one, irrespective of any party to which he belongs, whether a commercialist

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

or agriculturist or loyalist or an independent or anybody, every one in India and in all parts of the Empire, was very anxiously watching every day and every moment the progress of His Majesty's health, and it has been an amount of relief that has been experienced by everybody that His Majesty the King Emperor has recovered from his serious illness. It is the only link in the whole of the Empire which keeps all the parts of the Empire joint, and just as my predecessor who has just spoken said, there are no two opinions about His Majesty the King Emperor's personality on the part of any one of any shade of opinion. He is the common link and every one wishes that his health should be restored and that he may long rule over us. With these words I associate myself with the resolution moved by the honourable member Mr. Bole.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE (Ahmednagar District) : Sir, on behalf of the Non-Brahmin party I fully associate myself with the sentiments and expressions voiced by the mover of this resolution. Sir, the position occupied by the King Emperor is really unique. People, who have not studied the British constitution think that the King Emperor is merely a figurehead. But that is not so. How varied are the duties of the King Emperor, would be seen from the fact that during his illness a committee had actually to be appointed, with Her Majesty the Queen as president, to carry on the duties that devolve on the King Emperor. Really these duties are very responsible ones, and it is by the grace of God that our present popular King Emperor has been saved for the good of the Empire. I entirely associate myself with the resolution that is moved by the honourable member Mr. Bole.

Mr. J. B. DESAI (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars) : Sir, on behalf of the Gujarat Sardars and Zamindars I associate myself with the sentiments expressed in the resolution moved by my honourable friend Mr. Bole.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) (Addressed the House in Marathi) : Mr. President, I support the resolution moved by my honourable friend Mr. Bole.

The whole population of India desires that His Majesty should have a long life and that he should get through his present convalescent stage as quickly as possible. We hope and pray that as a gift in commemoration of his recovery back to health and resumption of his kingly office, His Majesty may be graciously pleased to grant the desire of the Indians for Swaraj. If, without falling a prey to the teachings of the bureaucracy His Majesty will grant the ambition of the Indians to secure Swaraj, we shall all be grateful to the Almighty. As a matter of fact, there is no difference of any kind between the people of India and His Majesty who, we pray to God, may be able to release the popular leaders from the clutches of the Divide and Rule Policy which has been adopted by the bureaucracy. May His Majesty the King Emperor live long is the prayer of all of his subjects in India.

Dr. P. G. SOLANKI : Sir, I fully associate myself wholeheartedly with the sentiments expressed by my predecessors. Almighty God has been merciful and has extended the life of His Majesty. The people who felt

[Dr. P. G. Solanki]

most anxious, I should say, were the subjects of His Majesty throughout the Empire and on behalf of the backward classes, I do join in the sentiments, and I do express the sense of great rejoicing and gratefulness, at the fact, that God has spared to us His Most Gracious Majesty and we hope and pray that he will very soon be able to resume his duties, and that he should be spared to us as, our King Emperor, for many more years to come. In conclusion, I offer my most heartfelt thanks to Almighty for the kindness, which He has shown to us, in extending the life of His Gracious Majesty, King George. V.

Mr. G. L. WINTERBOTHAM (Bombay Chamber of Commerce) : Mr. President, I associate myself fully with the resolution and with the sentiments which have been expressed from every corner of this House. It is no exaggeration to say that the better news of the progress of His Majesty the King Emperor's illness has removed a load of anxiety from the mind of every individual subject of his and we earnestly pray that His Majesty will continue to make satisfactory progress towards complete restoration to health.

Mr. FRANK OLIVEIRA : Mr. President, on behalf of the Indian Christian community, I heartily associate myself with the sentiments expressed on the floor of this House with respect to the illness and recovery of His Majesty the King Emperor, and I earnestly join in the hope that his recovery will be complete within a short time.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Sir, on behalf of the Sardars and Inamdars of this Presidency, I fully associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the honourable mover Mr. Bole and other honourable members who spoke on this resolution.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Mr. President, on behalf of the Members of Government and all the official members of this House, I desire to associate myself most fully with this resolution and with the sentiments of devotion to the Crown, and sympathy towards the person of His Majesty the King Emperor, which have been expressed in this House.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : It is my pleasure now to put the resolution to the House and the House will show its approval by each member rising in his seat.

The resolution was passed, honourable members rising in their seats.

PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : MR. PRESIDENT, I rise to ask leave to present the budget for the ensuing year 1929-30. In introducing the budget not only have I to review the salient features of the finances of our Presidency, but as finance is considered as the engine room that furnishes power to all the other departments of Government I will try to briefly review the working of the other departments of Government.

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

2. Before I enter upon that laborious and difficult task I have to crave the indulgence of this honourable House for the many defects and shortcomings which it may notice in this my first attempt in framing the budget. I particularly expect a great deal of sympathy and full co-operation from my friends on the opposite benches in my task as brother Indians. I know that my friends are proud to find a second Indian Member entrusted with the most important portfolio of finance; but coming as I do after such a distinguished member, as my friend, Sir Chunilal Mehta, who managed the different departments of Government with consummate skill, I naturally feel a sort of diffidence at the task I have undertaken and if I commit mistakes, and I am bound to commit many, my honourable friends will pardon me believing that they are mistakes of judgment and not wilfully made.

Honourable members will find in the Blue Book full details of the revised estimates of the current year and our proposals for next year. I therefore do not intend to do more than briefly summarise the position here. The final accounts of the year 1927-28 gave us a closing balance larger by 55 lakhs than we anticipated at the time of the last budget discussion. This is accounted for by a net decrease in expenditure debitable to revenue of 7 lakhs below the actual revenues of the year and a saving of 48 lakhs in the capital accounts owing to the loans which were voted by the Council in that year for flood relief not being fully distributed before the end of the year. In the current year the estimates show a net increase of revenue of 6 lakhs and a net decrease of expenditure of 12 lakhs—a total improvement of 18 lakhs. What the improvement will actually amount to must depend unfortunately on the extent of the damage to crops done by the recent frosts. On the other hand we are meeting temporarily an excess of 19 lakhs under capital expenditure by drawing on the final balance of the year. So that the actual closing balance will be less by 1 lakh than the opening balance. Our estimates for next year of revenue are based on the assumption that the Council will continue the Court-fee and Stamp Acts. The total estimate is rather less than that of the current year, and our estimates of expenditure have accordingly been cut down so as to show a very small surplus on the right side.

We are drawing 30 lakhs from the Famine Fund for expenditure on works for the prevention of famine. This figure includes 11·79 lakhs for credit to the Sukkur Barrage. This is for the balance of interest on the first two years' loans, which remained to be credited to the Barrage accounts in accordance with the arrangement entered into that the Famine Fund should contribute 10 lakhs annually to the interest charges. In future this charge will be met from the ordinary revenues, in consequence of the revised constitution of the Famine Relief Fund.

Our total borrowings for works next year will amount to 433 lakhs, of which 355 are for the Barrage, 23 for other irrigation, and 39 for other purposes. The Development Department will borrow 16 lakhs.

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

3. Before entering upon any further discussion of our financial position, I should like in the first place to state the different changes which have been made in the system of keeping accounts since the year 1921 under the orders of the Auditor General, so that honourable members when they come to compare the revenue and expenditure figures of the different years, they may have a clear idea as to how to proceed in that comparison. I myself as a non-official used to fumble and though all those changes are printed in the Blue Book, attention upon them is not so particularly concentrated.

(1) In 1922-23 the cost of the Collector of Bombay and his establishment, and the contingent charges (except postage and telegrams) of all Collectors were transferred from "22, General Administration" to "5, Land Revenue." These amounted at the time to about Rs. 5 lakhs.

(2) From 1923-24 onwards a fixed amount of Rs. 18·78 lakhs has been debited each year to "5, Land Revenue" by transfer from "22, General Administration." This represents the portion debitabie to "5, Land Revenue" on account of district administration.

(3) In 1923-24 the cost (about Rs. 9 lakhs) of "Village Police" was transferred from "26, Police" to "22, General Administration."

(4) In 1924-25 (a) the cost (averaging Rs. 24 lakhs) of the pay and allowances of district and village officers entered under the minor head "Land Records" and (b) the value (averaging Rs. 97 lakhs) of the assessments of service lands alienated to district and village officers were transferred from "5, Land Revenue" to "22, General Administration."

(5) The head "8-A, Forest Capital Outlay charged to Revenue" has been opened since 1925-26 to record transactions of a capital nature and to classify all expenditure in the Forest Department under "Revenue" and "Capital." All forest expenditure of a capital nature is to be brought to account in the first instance under the major head "52-A, Capital Outlay on Forests not charged to revenue," such portion as it may be decided to finance from revenue being transferred at the end of the year to the new Major head "8-A."

(6) With effect from the year 1926-27 all payments on account of commutations of pensions, whether made in England or in India, are to be brought to account in India in our accounts under the Capital Major head "60-B." This amount is repayable with interest from current revenues by equated payments spread over 15 years, commencing from the following year in which commutations are sanctioned. The total equated payment is debited to the revenue head "45, Superannuation Allowances and Pensions," and credited, the capital portion, to "60-B" and interest portion to "19, Interest on Ordinary Debt."

(7) Since 1928-29 certain recoveries which were till then treated as deductions from expenditure are credited to their respective heads and

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not deducted from expenditure. A statement of such recoveries was given in the Blue Book of the last year at page 26.

(8) Since the year 1927-28 new revenue heads "XXXI" and "42" have been opened for the Industrial housing portion of the Bombay Development Scheme.

For the suburban schemes Nos. 21 and 23 (*viz.*, Ambernath Water supply and Ambernath Electric supply) revenue accounts have also been opened in the current year. These schemes have now been completed, and the profit or loss on their working should properly come into the ordinary Provincial accounts.

(9) Up to 1923-24 separate demands were being made for Establishment, Tools and Plant charges under the various heads XIII, 15, 55: the percentage for Establishment was $21\frac{1}{2}$ and for Tools and Plant $1\frac{1}{2} = 23\%$ on the costs of the works and repairs. To that was added the total cost of special establishment for surveys debitable to that head. From the year 1925-26, the whole demand is made under "41, Civil Works." From 1926-27 the same procedure is followed except as regards the Lloyd Barrage and Canals Construction which is a self-contained unit, and for that a demand is made under "55." With effect from the 1st April 1927 the rates of these charges are increased, *viz.*, 24 for Establishment and 3 for Tools and Plants according to the average rate of actuals.

(10) The amount which is shown under the Revenue head "XXXII" does not represent real revenue but the amount transferred from the Famine Relief Fund.

All these changes are mentioned as I have said above in the Blue Book but they are spread over different pages and I have tried to collect them together for the convenience of the honourable members.

4. I wish to point out the new rules laid down for the provision of the Famine Relief Fund by the Secretary of State. The house is aware that under Devolution Rule 29, this Government had to contribute a sum of Rs. 63.60 lakhs annually towards that fund and could temporarily suspend payment when the accumulated amount to its credit was not less than six times the annual assignment which meant 3,81,60,000. This sum could be spent on measures for relief of famine or the construction of protective irrigation works or other works for the prevention of famine. The Government of India pays interest upon this fund which is one per cent. less than the rate charged by it during the year for advances made to the Provincial Loans Fund.

According to our experience extending over a long series of years it was found that so large a contribution was really not necessary and that was the experience of other Provincial Governments also, and all wanted some relief from this heavy contribution in order to be able to utilize the amount for other objects and also to reduce their borrowings. This

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was mentioned by Sir Chunilal in his speech last year and the sanction of the Secretary of State has now been received for reducing the annual contribution to Rs. 12 lakhs which may be suspended when the accumulated fund amounts to Rs. 75 lakhs. Under the revised rules the contribution and the Famine Relief Fund itself can only be used for the relief of famine; but any excess over the 75 lakhs may be used on protective works and other preventive measures. The amount in the Famine Fund being now more than Rs. 75 lakhs, we have not made any provision this year for contribution, but we are transferring a certain amount to our revenue for works of a protective nature in precarious tracts.

Honourable members are aware that the contribution which we were obliged to make under Devolution Rule 17 to the Central Government has ceased finally from the current year which will give some relief to our finances, though that will not remove the inequity to which this Presidency is subjected by the Meston Settlement. Hitherto we have paid as under :—

1921 to 1924 (56 lakhs annually)	..	224 lakhs.
1925-26 .. ..	..	34 lakhs.
1926-27 .. ..	..	28 lakhs.

Total .. 286 lakhs.

5. With the permission of the House I wish to take a short review of the working of the different departments since the inauguration of the Reforms. In taking stock of the different departments, I wish to tell an unvarnished story as gathered from the information collected by me, supplemented by discussions with different heads of departments. Mr. President, my object in undertaking this review in broad outlines is to show the distance we have travelled and to leave it to this honourable House and the public generally to judge whether we are proceeding on the right lines, and if we are making mistakes to point them out to us and to suggest ways and means to remedy them. Why more progress was not possible will be made clear when I discuss some salient points of the Meston Settlement.

I will first take the departments which are under the charge of the Honourable Ministers which are rightly styled the “nation-building departments.”

6. To begin with “Agriculture” which is the main source of income of more than 70 per cent. of the population.

In all there are 12 principal places in the Presidency proper and Sind where plant breeding stations are established but some work is also in progress at other stations. Experiments are made as regards cotton, jowar, rice, bajri, wheat, tobacco and nagli. The results of those experiments are shortly stated below :

In Surat the hybrid 1027 A. L. F. is grown which is considered to be the best indigenous cotton in India. Its lint is worth a premium of about Rs. 50 per khandy over Broach.

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In Dharwar "Dharwar No. 1" is a selection of the Kumpta variety which is grown on nearly 3 lakhs of acres. "Gadag No. 1" which is an improved Dharwar-American is grown over one lakh of acres.

In Khandesh the improved varieties are "N. R." and "Dhulia No. 1," the area under it is about 4,000 acres.

In Sind the improved deshi variety known as "27 W. N." covers an area of 50,000 acres, and Punjab-American "4 F." occupies 24,000 acres.

The total area under the improved cotton is about a million acres.

This House has passed the Cotton Markets Act, the object of which is to eliminate middlemen and to put the proper price in the pockets of the growers by preventing frauds.

In *Rice* the improved variety is "Kolumba No. 42" which gives nearly 20 per cent. more yield. The land under it is now 40,000 acres. There are several improved strains in Larkana yielding similar results. The land under it is about 3,000 acres.

In *Tobacco* the improved strain is "No. 6" at Nadiad. It yields an extra value, I am informed, of Rs. 50 per acre.

The three improved varieties of *Wheat* in Sind are "Pusa 12," "A. T. 38," and "C. P. H. 27."

As regards *Jowar* cultivators are taught how to increase the yield by grading the seed (through sieves) and interculturing the crop. I myself saw the improvements last year at the Ahmednagar Show.

I will now mention some other directions in which the department is working. To improve *Ground-nut* crop the Spanish pea-nut variety has been introduced which covers an area of about 3 lakhs of acres in Khandesh, 59,000 in Panch Mahals, and great strides have also been made in Ahmedabad.

The work of the Horticultural section is much appreciated and several varieties of fruit are improved.

A campaign has been started for the destruction of pigs and field-rats with good results.

The great question before Government is the future of the sugar-cane plantation. The House is aware that there is an experimental farm at Manjri near Poona and it has evolved some improvements in sugar-cane growing. Mr. Inglis has made experiments at the effluent farm to find out how to reduce the cost of growing sugar-cane, particularly when the prices of *gul* are at rock-bottom. The Deccan Irrigation will not be a paying proposition unless the land under irrigation grows sugar-cane. Mr. Sayer, the Expert of the Government of India, was called more than once to advise this Government in the matter. The most recent work has been in the possibilities of establishing a village sugar-making industry and some valuable results have been obtained.

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This House sanctioned an experimental station at Sakrand in Sind in view of the approaching conditions of the Sukkur Barrage, and Government are considering whether it cannot be financed from capital expenditure.

Various attempts are being made to improve the breed of cattle by establishing breeding farms for different breeds and by supplying premium bulls. Assistance is given to Gowrakshak Mandalis and honourable members are aware that last year a "cattle breeding and dairying association" was started which was inaugurated by H. E. Sir Leslie Wilson.

Agricultural Shows are held at different places and the two big Shows, one at Poona and the other at Ahmedabad, were a great success. They bring home to the minds of the cultivators the different directions in which improvement is possible and also the use of improved machinery. The Motor Tractor is being used in several places in place of the old bullock-driven plough.

Dry farming is taught to cultivators in famine tracts and well-boring machines are tapping water both for drinking and irrigation purposes.

There are several other directions in which the department is working and there was a Conference of the Ministers of Agriculture at Simla to discuss what steps should be taken in the directions suggested by the Royal Agricultural Commission.

I cannot close this review without a reference to the generous donations which the department is receiving. During the year 1927-28 it received more than one lakh of rupees from the Indian Central Cotton Committee for various objects connected with cotton, Rs. 25,605 from the Trustees of the Sir Sassoon David Trust for various research schemes and Rs. 30,000 from Bai Sakarbai Nusserwanji for improvement of the Veterinary Hospital attached to the Poona Agricultural College.

Honourable members will excuse me if I have taken a rather long review of this department as I consider it of primary importance. Most of the improvements, if not all, are post reform.

CO-OPERATION

7. Closely allied to Agriculture is the Co-operative movement which was first started with the passing of the Act (Act X of 1904) by the Government of India. As the movement began to spread, Act II of 1912 was passed by the Government of India under which the movement in this Presidency continued to be regulated. With the introduction of the Reforms, Co-operation became a Transferred subject and this Presidency was the first to pass a separate Bombay Co-operative Societies Act (Act VII of 1925). The rules under this Act were passed in 1927. I wish to point out cursorily the progress of this movement and the various types of societies started under it during the last 9 years of the Reforms period.

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I give below a comparative statement showing the increase of the movement both in numbers and members and also the working capital :

Types of Societies.	Number of societies.		Number of members.		Working capital.	
	1920-21.	1927-28.	1920-21.	1927-28.	1920-21.	1927-28.
					Rs.	Rs.
Central Banks	18	20	6,539	12,311	89,20,055	4,01,27,543
Agricultural societies ..	2,382	4,434	179,360	336,259	1,35,81,611	3,70,62,296
Non-agricultural societies ..	485	769	86,059	190,900	1,09,55,536	3,47,26,116
Total	2,885	5,223	271,958	539,470	3,34,57,202	11,19,15,955
Unions	66	100	..	..	....	....
Insurance societies	5	7	..	..	....	....
Total	71	107	..	..	....	....
Grand Total ...	2,956	5,330	271,958	539,470	3,34,57,202	11,19,15,955

This shows an increase of 80 per cent. in societies, 98 per cent. in membership, and 231 per cent. in the working capital. These figures are to the end of 31st March 1928.

Out of the working capital of 11.19 lakhs 659 lakhs is owned capital, i.e., subscribed by the members themselves. This fact alone illustrates the large part which the Co-operative movement plays in the economic life of the Province.

So far it has been the accepted policy of Government to provide free audit by Government agency except in the case of housing societies and institutions classed as banks, and there is no doubt that Government audit is an important factor in the creation of general public confidence. The question of charging audit fees from all primary societies is at present under consideration.

A new experiment for the reclamation of the Bhils is being tried in the Panch Mahals since 1922-23. Government have appointed a Special Mamlatdar half of whose salary is paid by Government and the other half by the Provincial Co-operative Bank. Government also contribute part of the cost of the Secretaries of these societies. There are at present 69 Bhil societies with 3,907 members and with a working capital of Rs. 1,61,110.

An attempt is being made to solve the problem of long term mortgage credit by the organization of Land Mortgage Banks on the lines sanctioned by Government. The Bank at Pachora has already been registered and the Banks at Dharwar and Broach will be organised before the close of the year. Government have purchased debentures of the face value of Rs. 2 lakhs at 88 for every 100 of face value. All these different

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efforts are directed towards supplying capital to the agriculturists for cultivation and for eliminating the middlemen and bringing the consumers and producers together so that the grower may get the full value for his produce, and also towards removing the indebtedness of the agriculturists generally.

FORESTS

8. The third factor which plays a very important part in the well-being of the agricultural community and also as regards the yielding of revenue is the management of our forests. Honourable members are aware that "Forests" is a transferred subject only in this Presidency and Burma. Burma has got an incomparably large wealth in its forests, and our Presidency also has forests covering an area of about 15,000 square miles. The forests contain very valuable timber trees and their commercial value depends mainly on their accessibility to markets and the provision of communications and transport facilities. Opening of new communications and other marketing facilities mean expenditure of capital and for some time we have found this money out of our revenues. At present the remoter areas of the Dangs, Peint and parts of Kanara have been opened up, and a large addition to our forest revenue has resulted from these activities.

In the Dangs we have partly constructed through-roads from Waghai to Nawapur on the Tapti-Valley Railway in the north-east and to Nasik in the south-east. We have also constructed branch roads with the result that the gross revenue which was in the neighbourhood of Rs. 3 lakhs on an average from 1920-21 to 1922-23, showing a net deficit on the whole, has yielded during the last quinquennium 1923-24 to 1927-28 Rs. 5,48,274 and an average surplus of Rs. 1,95,779.

In Peint similar new roads are being constructed but the effect of these measures is not yet visible. It is hoped that it will show surplus revenue when the road schemes are completed and the forest settlement and revised working plans fully introduced.

In the Thana District new forest roads joining the bunders and the railway are being made, while the Akrani, a very hilly and backward tract, is being joined to the plains below by a road from Dhadgaon to Shahada at a cost of over Rs. 97,000 in the interests of the Bhil population.

In Kanara the Alnawar-Dandeli Railway constructed towards the close of the War has rendered possible the extraction of teak, hardwoods, Bamboos, etc. It has encouraged manganese mining by private companies in these forests. In the more inaccessible areas where road schemes prove too costly and prohibitive, mechanical extraction is being employed to great advantage. For instance in the Nagzari valley in N. D. Kanara the Forest Engineering branch has been able to introduce a method of timber haulage by means of tractors, winches, wire ropes, etc., on which a capital expenditure of about Rs. 50,000 has been

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incurred. The gross revenues from these operations during the last five years are as pointed below :—

				Rs.
1923-24	..	..	..	36,704
1924-25	..	..	..	87,986
1925-26	..	..	..	1,34,218
1926-27	..	..	..	1,61,379
1927-28	..	..	..	2,74,845

There are several other sylvicultural methods adopted for seasoning timber and artificial regeneration, and I give below a statement showing that in spite of the set-backs and a period of extraordinary depression of trade throughout the Presidency, the results* are satisfactory :—

—	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Average for 10 years 1909-10 to 1918-19 ..	51,27,057	27,70,205	*23,56,852
Average for quinquennium 1919-20 to 1923-24.	69,71,739	43,58,623	†26,13,116
Average for last 4 years 1924-25 to 1927-28..	74,61,557	42,55,923	32,05,634

* Included war period 1914-18 when extra revenue was earned by supply of timber and other material to Munitions Department.

† The expenditure includes the increased recurring cost of post-war revision of pay and allowances of officers and establishments of all grades.

Honourable members are aware that this House had appointed a committee known as the Forest Grievances Inquiry Committee, which submitted a very valuable report, and as a result of that report all reasonable demands for extension of forest privileges or the removal of restrictions have been conceded. A special officer was appointed for revising the forest settlement in Kanara and the privileges of the people and the areas open to their exercise were considerably extended. Village panchayats in several places have been entrusted with the management of village forests with a view to associating the people actively in the protection and maintenance of forests.

Government have recently issued orders for the formation of District Advisory Committees in the more important forest districts with a view to bringing together Government officers and representatives of the people for a free interchange of opinion and enlightening these representatives, and through them the public generally, as to the aims and objects of the policy of the Department and the justification for its actions.

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EXCISE

9. I next take the question of excise. The principal sources of revenue for this Presidency are Land Revenue, Excise, Stamps and Forest. Out of nearly 14½ crores the Excise revenue is nearly 4 crores.

The different steps which were taken to reduce the consumption of liquor were these :—

- (a) Rationing.
- (b) Increase in still-head duty.
- (c) Reduction in strength of liquor.
- (d) Reduction in the number of shops.
- (e) Early closing of shops.
- (f) Increase in the rate of duty per seer of Ganja.
- *(g) Increase in the issue price of Opium.
- (h) Prohibition of the sale of charas in the Presidency proper.

It was noticed that with rationing and no check on selling prices and the reduction in the strength of liquor the sales of foreign liquor, particularly of cheap foreign liquors, went up. For comparison of these figures the year 1923-24 has to be taken because, prior to that both the retail and the wholesale sales were registered thereby showing double entries. Since 1923-24 only retail sales are being registered in the Bombay City and even then the statistics are not accurate, as the sale of a dozen bottles or more is considered as a wholesale sale and is not registered. Many persons and clubs make purchases by dozens and those sales are not shown. Even with this mistake the figures show that the sales have considerably gone up, particularly of malt liquors. In order to check this the following steps were taken :—

In 1922 a pass fee was introduced on foreign liquors imported at the ports of Bombay and Karachi as well as on Indian-made foreign liquor manufactured in Bombay Presidency or in other parts of India but imported into this Presidency.

The realisations from this fee amounted to 5-6 lakhs per annum.

In 1925 the license fees were revised and they were doubled in each case whether it was a wholesale or an import license or a retail license.

All the Clubs were required to take licenses and a license fee was levied according to different kinds of wines and the quantity of consumption.

From the 1st April 1927 the scale of fees for foreign liquor retail "off" licenses in the Mofussil (Presidency proper) was greatly enhanced, and in April 1928 it was again revised and retailers required to pay fees on actual sales.

Refreshment Rooms and Hotels have also been asked to pay an additional fee according to certain scales.

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All these different efforts were made in order to make the foreign liquor dear to the consumer.

The Honourable Minister is introducing in this very session the Mhowra Flowers Bill to amend the Bombay Abkari Act, as Mhowra flowers form the chief base for illicit distillation.

As regards Opium the issue price of it which was Rs. 45 in 1920-21 has been raised to Rs. 75 in the Presidency proper and to Rs. 60 in Sind since 1923-24.

The duty on Ganja which was Rs. 17-8 in 1920-21 was gradually raised by degrees. It was raised to Rs. 30 in 1927-28 and to Rs. 35 in the current year, in the Presidency proper.

The tax on toddy trees has been raised in some places and the number of trees tapped is considerably reduced.

			(trees tapped)
In 1920-21 it was	..	..	.. 4,29,000*
In 1928-29 it was	..	..	.. 3,79,000

a reduction of 50,000 trees.

The rationing system and the unlimited price of country liquor have resulted in considerable illicit distillation and smuggling with the necessary consequence of a heavy loss of still-head duty. The still head duty was 2,12 lakhs in 1920-21 and it was reduced to 1,45 lakhs in the current year—a drop of nearly 67 lakhs. It is partly made good by the different increases in other ways to which I have already made a reference.

Charas

The stopping of charas meant a loss of Rs. 3½ lakhs in duty alone *plus* a loss in vend fee.

I am advised that inspite of these changes the drinking habit of the people has not much improved. There is considerable illicit distillation and smuggling going on. The Excise authorities in Bombay further report that illicit charas can be and is being obtained at any street corner and that its consumption is on the increase.

EDUCATION

10. I will shortly state the increase in the number of schools and school-going population and the Government grant which has taken place during the last 9 years. On 31st March 1920 there were 12,714 primary schools and 540 secondary schools. The total Government grant on all account was Rs. 1,25,71,072 on the same date. The number of students both boys and girls receiving instruction in the primary schools was 7,60,122 and in the secondary schools 82,373. On 31st March 1928 the number of primary schools had risen to 14,373 and secondary schools to 570. The total Government grant given was 2,00,29,462. The number of students of all kinds receiving instruction were—

Primary schools 10,21,078
Secondary schools 1,08,578

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These are the figures supplied to me by the Director of Public Instruction.

PUBLIC HEALTH

11. The number of dispensaries has increased and necessarily along with that the amount of Government grant.

12. Up to the year 1925-26 grants to District Local Boards for village water supply used to be made from ordinary revenue. In the year 1926-27 it was decided to meet the charge from the Famine Fund. So the amount provided in previous years which was only Rs. 1,20,000 was raised to 5 lakhs in 1926-27 and to 3 lakhs in 1927-28 and 1928-29. With effect from the next year the expenditure in precarious tracts only is to be debited to the Famine Fund and the expenditure on non-precarious tracts will be debited to the ordinary revenue.

In September 1925 Government created the appointment of a Special Engineer to improve the water supply both for irrigation and domestic purposes in the precarious tracts and to investigate the question of minor irrigation works such as bandharas, tanks, etc. His work is confined for the most part to precarious districts and no individual scheme prepared by him should exceed Rs. 1½ lakhs without the special sanction of Government. He has already investigated about 900 proposals out of 1,652 received by him. Up to the end of October 1928, 265 schemes had to be abandoned after investigation as being impracticable. Projects estimated to cost Rs. 42,50,937 have been approved administratively and schemes estimated to cost Rs. 7,47,357 have been sanctioned finally.

In order to enable District Local Boards to make adequate provision of drinking water supply in villages liberal grants-in-aid are made for the construction of wells. Formerly the District Local Boards paid two-thirds of the total cost and Government one-third. The maximum Government grant has now been raised to two-thirds, while District Local Boards contribute the balance either from their own resources or by contributions from villages. In the case of village water supplying tanks Government grant is one-third. A proposal to increase this grant also to two-thirds has recently been sanctioned.

Major Pogson has been appointed as Water Diviner to Government since 1925. In order to guarantee the success of his work, Government have undertaken as an experimental measure to refund in case of a total failure half the expenditure incurred by a cultivator on sites selected by him, subject to a maximum of Rs. 400.

The Municipalities and Local Boards are democratised with wider franchise and with the power to elect their own presidents. In some cases unfortunately the affairs have not been well managed and Government have had to take some drastic steps. There are also very large arrears, but it is hoped that with the awakening of the new spirit, all the local bodies will know their full responsibilities and will manage their affairs with credit to themselves.

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By the amendment to the Bombay City Municipal Act, labour members are given seats by election on the Corporation.

IRRIGATION

13. The next branch of very great importance is Irrigation. The total expenditure upon irrigation since 1921-22 to 1927-28 is as under :—

	Rs.
Expenditure met from famine grant ..	70,84,000
Expenditure met from ordinary revenue ..	1,01,000
Expenditure met from loan funds ..	2,25,01,196
Other revenue expenditure for direct charges like works, repairs, establishment, tools and plant, etc.	5,72,25,522

On a comparison of the figures of rents it is found that lands near the irrigation canals have gone up in value to 3 or 4 times their original worth.

In Deccan and Gujarat in order to arrive at the correct estimate of the benefits conferred by irrigation we have to take into consideration different factors. It was rightly pointed out by the Superintending Engineer, Deccan Irrigation Circle, that in order to arrive at a correct appreciation of benefits we have to compare the increased land revenue with the old revenue in the same tract before the canal was constructed and also the savings effected in expenditure on famine operations and relief, making allowance for the ordinary increase in revenue if the canal had not been there. This was accepted by Government and accounts will be maintained in future upon that basis.

The Bhatgar dam is now complete and the Nira Right Bank Canal is expected to be complete in 1931-32. It has been partially in operation from the year 1924-25. The Pravara River Works were completed in June 1926. I give below a statement giving the length of the canals and the area irrigated :—

— —		Length of main canals and branches in operation in 1920-21	Length in 1928-29
		Miles	Miles (approximate)
Deccan and Gujarat	1,599	1,884
Sind	7,163	7,337
Total ..		8,762	9,221

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The areas irrigated in 1920-21 and 1928-29 are given below :—

	Area irrigated	
	1920-21	1928-29
	Acres	Acres
Deccan and Gujarat	430,710	438,363
Sind	3,007,019	3,384,496
Total ..	3,437,729	3,822,859

In addition to this there are about 11,000 small tanks and Bandharas in Deccan and Gujarat and an amount of Rs. 3 lakhs is spent annually upon their improvement and repair.

These are in charge of the Irrigation Department. There are other tanks which are in charge of the Revenue Department.

ROADS AND BUILDINGS

14. The value of our public buildings and roads and bridges has enormously increased owing to large additions and these vast properties require an increasingly greater amount for their repairs and upkeep, and though the demand of the local officers is for Rs. 64 lakhs we have been able to put down only 54 lakhs for the purpose. Out of this a sum of Rs. 35 lakhs is for repairs to roads and Rs. 19 lakhs for repairs to buildings.

POLICE

15. The primary duty of Government is to preserve law and order and to see that justice is done between man and man. A Government which fails in this primary duty had better abdicate. This requires a magistracy, judicial officers and police force who are all contented. In the year 1921-22 owing to retrenchment being ordered by this honourable House the police force was drastically cut down, many outposts were removed and the number of unarmed police also reduced. That resulted in the necessary consequence of more crime, and a cry was raised throughout the Presidency for increasing the police force. With our depleted finance the necessary funds could not be supplied, but it is proposed to give some relief by increasing the average grant by 4 lakhs. The traffic control in cities like Bombay, Ahmedabad, Poona and other places requires a number of additional men, and in the Bombay city owing to the passing of the Bombay Children Act and the Bombay Prostitution Act additional duties have been thrown upon the police. Added to these difficulties there are strikes and communal disorders, and often times the police force in a particular place is not

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enough to control the situation and additional police have to be drafted from other places with consequential addition to the expenditure.

The following table shows the percentage of the Police quarters in 1920 and at present :—

—	Percentage of Police housed in 1920-21	Percentage housed at present
Bombay City ..	49·08	97·78
Presidency Proper ..	67·00	79·00
Sind ..	57·64	75·50

In addition to the Bombay Prevention of Prostitution Act and Bombay Children Act, the Act for the Prevention of Gambling was amended in 1922 and again in 1926. The Sind Court Act of 1926, though it has been passed, has not yet been brought into operation on account of financial stringency.

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

16. This review gives a rough idea as to what Government have been able to accomplish during the last 8 or 9 years. The House would naturally be anxious to know the state of affairs in the Development Department including the Back Bay, the Housing scheme and other suburban schemes.

The following statement gives the borrowings of the Department for all its operations till the end of 1927-28 :—

1920-21 Bombay Development loan at $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. <i>plus</i>	Rs. Lakhs
income tax at 3/32	243·93
Port Trust repayments	17·68

261·61

1921-22 Government of India loan originally at $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. reduced to $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. from 1st April 1927 ..	153·50
1922-23 Government of India loan originally ..	285·00
Less cancelled in November 1927 in part payment of Block No. 8	—20·74

Rate of interest at $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. will be reduced to 5 per cent. with effect from 1st April 1929.

1923-24 Government of India loan at 6 per cent. ..	279·50
1924-25 Government of India loan at $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. ..	200·00
1925-26 Government of India loan at $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ..	182·88
1926-27 Government of India loan at 5 per cent. ..	76·33
1927-28 Government of India loan at 5 per cent. ..	15·00

Total borrowings to 31st March 1928 .. 1,433·08

In 1928-29 the Port Trust will repay 3·44 lakhs and at the close of the current year the department will borrow 72·29 lakhs from the Government of India at 5 per cent.

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I also attach a summary showing the amounts spent on the different schemes :—

	Back Bay	Industrial Housing Scheme	Suburban Schemes
1. Total cost including interest to 31st March 1928 (after deducting subsidy) ..	6,88,95,650	(1) 3,48,55,569	2,87,53,531
2. Total cost including interest to 31st October 1928 ..	7,27,35,280	(1) 3,48,56,000	2,91,16,757
3. Total cost including interest to 31st March 1929 (approximate) ..	7,69,37,000	(1) 3,48,56,000	3,13,53,000
4. Amount recoverable from the Government of India or elsewhere ..	(2) 2,05,22,000	(3) (Nil)	(3) 39,20,300
5. Interest, 1929-30 ..	39,47,000	21,39,000	16,49,000
6. Capital Outlay, 1929-30 ..	23,21,000	4,000	(4) —46,000

(1) All interest during construction was written off against proceeds of town duty on raw cotton.

(2) In addition there will be recoveries from lease of plots to the public. The last estimate was made in January 1927 for 3,05·57 lakhs spread over 21 years beginning 1929-30.

(3) This is a recent estimate made by the Finance Sub-Committee of the Advisory Committee for Suburban schemes. The estimated receipts will not be completed till 1947-48.

(4) This is the estimated net *reduction* of the capital debt of the Suburban Schemes, made up of receipts (excluding subsidies but including sales of lands) less the cost of the following :—

new works
repairs and maintenance
and
establishment charges.

The cost of new works will be Rs. 1·41 lakhs.

N.B.—Interest charges are not taken into account in line 6 of table (see line 5).

Back Bay

17. Up to the end of 31st March 1928 a total expenditure amounting to 736·78 lakhs has been incurred on the Back Bay scheme against which the receipts have amounted to Rs. 22·27 lakhs (*i.e.*, Rs. 20·74 lakhs have been realised from the sale of the recreation ground in block 8 to the Military Authorities and Rs. 1·53 lakhs have been realised from miscellaneous receipts). It was expected that block No. 8 would be ready for delivery in May 1928. Those expectations have not been realised. There has been very large shrinkage in block 8 necessitating a considerable excess in dry filling. This means an additional loss of 13 lakhs in interest charges and nearly 12 lakhs more in the cost of dry filling. It is expected that the whole of block No. 8 will be ready for delivery at the end of May 1929. If the expectations are realised then we get Rs. 205·22 lakhs from the Government of India and that Government has been asked to make payment by cancelling an equivalent portion of the 1923-24 loan which carries interest at 6 per cent. As at present advised, the Government of India have allowed us to cancel the debt of 1922-23 which carries interest at 6½ per cent. by writing off this amount towards that debt and by paying the balance by converting it into a new loan at 5 per cent. If our request for allowing this amount to be written off against the loan of 1923-24 is granted, we shall pay off the 1922-23.

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loan by borrowing at 5 per cent. thus reducing the rate of interest from $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to 5 per cent. and instead of paying 6 per cent. on the whole loan of 1923-24 we shall pay 6 per cent. only on the balance which will be 73.24 lakhs. That will give us a great deal of relief in the interest charges.

At present we are paying a subsidy of 20 lakhs since 1926-27 on the assumption that the loss in the Back Bay will be 3 crores. It looks probable that this figure may increase. It will be difficult to calculate the approximate figure as the cost of development cannot be estimated till a layout is sanctioned, and on the receipts side the assets of the scheme in the shape of developed plots available for sale cannot be known. There will always be an inevitable element of speculation in any financial forecast as the estimates of the rates per square yard which the developed land will realise and of the areas that can be sold annually are matters of opinion.

Industrial Housing Scheme

18. As regards the Industrial Housing Scheme the state of affairs is as follows : I give below a statement showing the number of chawls constructed and the vacancies, etc., up to the end of 31st December 1928.

Chawl area	No. of constructed chawls	No. of tenements	No. of shops	No. of vacant chawls	No. of vacant tenements	No. of vacant shops
DeLisle Road	32	2,550	10	4	1,088	<i>Nil.</i>
Naigaum	42	3,276	68	2	880	40
Worli	121	9,476	184	76	6,862	121
Sewri	12	920	40	<i>Nil.</i>	70	17
Total ..	207	16,222	302	82	8,900	178
	16,524				9,078	

Bad debts written off during the period from January 1923 to December 1928 amounted to Rs. 2,43,344. The economic rent per tenement is Rs. 16 approximately per month. The scale of rents at present is as under :—

Chawl area		Rent per room	Rent per shop	
			Single	Double
		Rs. a. p.	Rs.	Rs.
DeLisle Road	Top floor ..	9 0 0	30	60
	Ground floor,	9 8 0		
	1st and 2nd floors.			
Naigaum	All floors ..	7 0 0	20	40
Sewri	All floors ..	7 0 0	20	40
Worli	All floors ..	5 0 0	21	40

The honourable House is aware that for this Scheme an account head is opened. The expenditure next year is estimated at Rs. 24.91 lakhs (of which 21.39 is on account of interest charges on the capital debt).

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

No sinking fund is being maintained for this account, but the Contribution of 1.49 lakhs is being added to the General Sinking Fund of the Development Department.

Revenue from rents is estimated at Rs. 6.55 lakhs based on the actuals of 1927-28. The deficit therefore is 19.85 lakhs. To make up this deficit a portion of the town duty is made available and it is estimated that in the next year it will be 14 lakhs though in the years 1926-27 and 1927-28 the amount available fell to nearly 11 lakhs. But for the previous 5 years the amount available was 15.83 lakhs. If our expectations of about 14 lakhs are realised then the remaining deficit of Rs. 5.85 lakhs will be covered by provincial revenues.

To attract tenants the following amenities are provided. Schools are established; the Infants Welfare Society, the Y. M. C. A., and the Hindu Maha Sabha are doing excellent social welfare work in the chawl areas. The Bombay Municipality have provided a free medical dispensary at Worli. Police protection is adequate. Shops in all the chawls and a market at Worli are provided. Further, Government have also announced that to large employers of labour, to societies, institutions and similar organisations and bodies or to private individuals acting on behalf of any community or section of the public, chawls will be offered *en bloc* at concession rents. All the chawl areas are provided with large open spaces and are well lighted and an adequate water supply is maintained. Every endeavour is made to keep the chawls and their surroundings clean and sanitary. Owing to the abolition of the Rent Act the rents for small tenements in the town area have gone up and if any representatives of the tenants' association will offer to occupy these chawls Government will consider the advisability of approaching the Tramway Company to extend the tramway line up to Worli, and making any necessary improvements in the chawls at reasonable cost. That will give a relief to the poor middle class men and also will have a salutary effect in bringing down the rents in the other portions of the town. The chawls are described to be absolutely healthy by the Special Advisory Committee in their report dated 11th December 1926.

Central Salsette Railway

19. The total expenditure on this Scheme up to 31st March 1928 amounted to Rs. 85.63 lakhs including interest and establishment charges. Out of this 13.04 lakhs are written off from the cotton cess, and 32,000 from other miscellaneous receipts. The net remaining amount is Rs. 72.27 lakhs. It is being run by the G. I. P. Railway since 9th January 1928 on an agreement for two years. The conditions are that the Railway should bear the cost of ordinary maintenance and retain the earnings. Government should bear the interest charges on the capital cost and should meet expenditure on new capital works, renewals and depreciation, subject to the condition, that Government sanction should be obtained each time before any new capital expenditure on works was incurred. The whole expenditure on this Railway may be considered as dead loss.

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

Other Schemes

20. According to the latest estimates the ultimate losses on Ambernath water supply and other schemes such as electric energy, etc., are as follows:

The water supply is estimated to cause an annual loss of 3.15 lakhs which capitalised at 6½ per cent. corresponds to a capital amount of Rs. 48.46 lakhs.

The electric supply scheme causes an annual loss of Rs. 87,000 which similarly capitalised comes to Rs. 13.65 lakhs.

There have been losses also on almost all the other suburban schemes excepting one or two. A subsidy of 7.50 lakhs was paid last year and was repeated in the current year's Budget.

The losses on the two Ambernath Schemes referred to are now provided for in the general budget which contain revenue accounts for these Schemes. Provision to meet interest and S. F. charges on the other Suburban Schemes has been made in next year's budget to the extent of 11.07 lakhs under the Heads of 19 Interest and 21 Reduction of Debt.

Excluding the Revenue Accounts, therefore, the total subsidy to the Department will amount to 32.56 lakhs.

In order that the House may have a clear idea as regards the state of sales of land in the suburban schemes I give below two statements showing disposals during the last 3 years and also the number of square yards showing the developed and undeveloped lands in the schemes for disposal on 1st January 1929. The disposals of the land during the last year show considerable improvement over the previous disposals, and if disposals go on increasing our losses may to a certain extent be minimised:

STATEMENT A

Statement showing the sales of land in suburban schemes

Scheme No.	Disposals during the year 1926-1927		Disposals during the year 1927-1928		Disposals during the year 1928 up to 31st December 1928	
	Area in sq. yards	Amount	Area in sq. yards	Amount	Area in sq. yards	Amount
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
1. S. S. No. 3, Chembur ..	8,706	20,249	4,188	12,120	31,200	69,702
2. S. S. No. 6, Danda ..	1,270	10,295	1,157	9,407	5,985	50,085
3. S. S. No. 7, Khar ..	34,218	1,52,523	10,179	1,35,015	27,342	2,20,256
4. S. S. No. 8, Chapel Road ..	1,409	7,560	1,974	12,776	2,854	15,370
5. S. S. No. 16, Kolkalyan ..	465	1,000	1,450	2,787	Nil.	Nil.
c. S. S. No. 18, Kiroi North—						
(Eastern Sector) ..	500	3,080	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
(Western Sector) ..	5,067	4,769	1,000	2,000	Nil.	Nil.

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

STATEMENT B

Statement showing the developed and underdeveloped land in suburban schemes for disposal on 1st January 1929

Scheme No.	Land for disposal on 1st January 1929		Percentage of the developed land disposed of
	Developed sq. yards	Underdeveloped sq. yards	
III—Chembur	193,598	251,530	Per cent. 47
VI—Danda	52,922	Nil.	34
VII—Khar	147,572	225,699	63
VIII—Chapel Road	3,248	Nil.	97
XVI—Shahar (Kolekalyan Sector)	7,472	67,307	20
XVIII—Kiorl North	40,465	107,933	4

21. These unfortunate losses have considerably curtailed the activities of the other Departments but we have to face facts as they are and have to make provisions for the amortization of these different debts.

The Bombay Development loan of 1920 which has been borrowed at $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. is due for repayment in 1935. The accumulations in the Sinking Fund will amount at the end of March to 95 lakhs and should amount in 1935 to over 150 lakhs. The balance of it will require to be paid off by fresh borrowing at a lower rate of interest. It is expected that the sales of the Back Bay lands will commence before 1935-36. A tentative programme of repayment of the entire debt to the Provincial Loan Fund is now being drawn up.

22. I will now review our debt position as it will be at the end of 1929-30. I have already given a statement showing the different loans borrowed for the Development Department. As regards the loans given to the other local bodies in Bombay they may safely be omitted as they are being repaid by those bodies. A statement of those loans will be found in the Blue Book at page 215.

I may sum up the position of the Development Department by saying that the net debt charges, after deducting certain small direct receipts, will be about 80 lakhs, of which about $54\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs are being met from ordinary revenues and the balance from capital. The remaining outstanding debt of the province I divide into four classes :—

- (1) Sukkur Barrage ;
- (2) Other Irrigation ;
- (3) Loans for Other Purposes ;
- (4) Provincial Loans Account.

The charges on the Barrage debt will amount to 51·76 lakhs of which 10 lakhs is being met from ordinary revenues and the balance from capital.

Capital expenditure on Irrigation, on the whole, more than pays for itself, leaving a small balance to credit of about 6 lakhs.

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

The debt incurred for Other Purposes amounts to 465 lakhs, the net charges on which, after deducting about 5 lakhs direct receipts, amount to 26 lakhs.

Of the Provincial Loans Account the balance outstanding due to the Government of India will be 73,66, the net charges on which, including interest and repayment of principal, after deducting the interest we receive on advances outstanding, will amount to about 22 lakhs.

To sum up, our total outstanding debt will amount to nearly 43 crores, or about 3 years' revenue. Out of this sum 9 crores is the irredeemable irrigation debt on which we pay a very favourable rate of interest, and the balance in the Provincial Loan Account will be paid off by 1932. The total charges on the debt amount to 248 lakhs, and the direct receipts from the expenditure amount to 73 lakhs, so that the net charge is 175. Out of this sum 1,07 is being met from provincial revenues, and 68 is being met from capital. The burden on our revenues therefore is roughly 7·8 per cent.

23. Some honourable members have expressed a wish in their speeches on the Budget debate that the Finance Member should briefly state in his speech the crop prospects of the season. In deference to those wishes I will shortly mention the state of the crops in the Presidency proper and in Sind.

The outlook in a large part of the Presidency at the end of June was far from satisfactory, but there was excellent rain in July and August and it was well distributed which considerably improved the prospects. The September and October rains though very beneficial in parts of East Deccan and East Karnatak were not well distributed in other parts of the Presidency. On the whole it may be stated that the season was well above the run of the preceding 10 years.

The area under Jowar crop fell by 7·7 per cent., but the outturn rose by 5 per cent., the decrease in the area being due to the unsuitability of sowing rains in June over a large part of the Kharif area. The rise in yield is due to the good kharif rains in Gujarat and opportune rains in Karnatak in September and October.

The area under bajri and rice crops fell by 16·1 and 10 per cent. respectively and the outturn also fell by 13 and 7·7 per cent. The decrease in the Bajri area was due to deficiency of rains in the early and middle parts of the season over a large portion of Deccan; and the deficiency of rains in June in North Konkan and Gujarat resulted in a decline in the area under rice. The reduction in the output was due to late transplantation.

The area under cotton showed a slight decline of 4 per cent., but the outturn rose by 1·7 per cent. The fall in area was due to the unsuitability of sowing rains in the Deccan and the extension of groundnut cultivation and the rise in yield to the favourable later rains.

The area under groundnut rose by 21·2 per cent. while the outturn rose by 28 per cent. This crop is getting very popular with the cultivators.

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

On the whole the agricultural outlook was considered as generally satisfactory for the Presidency except for parts of the Deccan, but the severe frost which visited the country recently has severely damaged the rabi crops in parts of Gujarat and Sind; so our expectations about the season being above the average are falsified. Government have taken prompt steps in issuing orders for giving relief to the cultivators where it is needed by way of takavi, suspension of land revenue and the like.

As regards Sind the river had a good inundation in June and July, but it fell prematurely in August and September. There were general rains in the first week of July but practically no rains in the months of August and September. But there was good rain in October almost everywhere. The rainfall during the season was above the average.

The jowar area declined by 23·2 per cent. but the outturn was the same as last year. Bajri fell by 16·8 per cent. but the outturn was 2·6 per cent. over that of the last year. The area under rice also fell by 5 per cent. but the outturn is expected to be 30 per cent. more. The cotton crop enjoyed a good season in spite of a bad attack of boll-worm on the Jamrao tract in the middle of the season. But owing to the early fall of the river it is doubtful whether equally good results can be obtained as regards rabi and late sown crops.

There was an attack of grasshoppers in parts of the Deccan and Karnatak between July to October, and locusts and other pests attacked parts of the crop in Sind. But on the whole there has not been much loss.

LLOYD BARRAGE

24. Many honourable members of this House have inspected the progress of the Barrage in their recent tour and I hope they are satisfied with regard to the actual progress that has been made.

The original estimates have now been revised and it is expected that the total will amount to Rs. 20,03,52,181 including all charges direct and indirect. This was brought to the notice of this honourable House by the Honourable the General Member last year. Out of this amount Rs. 7,47,11,000 has been spent up to 31st March 1928. The future borrowings have been shown in the debt programme which I have already referred to.

Honourable members are aware that the total area of new Government land which will be available for sale will be about 15 lakhs of acres out of which about 3·50 lakhs acres are to be sold at concession rates. Deducting that, about 11·50 lakhs of acres will be available for auctioning. The Revenue Officer is at present engaged in the disposal of the privileged lands and the first tentative auction will be held in the ensuing year. The sale price of privileged lands is expected to average, Rs. 15 per acre and Government have sanctioned the recovery of this price in two instalments. An interest of 6½ per cent. will be charged for the 2nd instalment. It is anticipated that about 50,000 acres of this land will be disposed of before 31st March 1929 and Rs. 3½ lakhs realised.

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

A detailed programme of land sales in the Barrage area is being prepared by the Revenue Officer and will shortly be submitted to Government.

The repayment programme of the Barrage debt is not officially settled yet, but probably we shall commence paying from the year 1935-36 the principal and interest by equated instalments extending over a period of 60 years.

MESTON SETTLEMENT

25. The period since the reforms has been one of great financial stringency and the Government of Bombay have been seriously handicapped in their administration. Except in a few departments they have been only marking time. At every budget discussion this honourable House reiterates the charges that the nation-building departments are being starved. Some additional expenditure on these departments has been made possible by the Council agreeing to pass some measures of additional taxation. I will take a few examples to show the restrictive influence which the Settlement has exercised on the policy of the administration of this Government.

Government have incurred commitments on account of primary education under the Bombay Primary Education Act. It became necessary to issue a press note pointing out the present straitened condition of the finances of this Presidency and Government's inability to provide additional funds for all schemes of expansion. Building grants have to be cut down and medical facilities have to be turned down for want of funds.

The policy of Government in regard to grants-in-aid to municipalities for water supply schemes and drainage was to give grants-in-aid amounting to 50 per cent. of the estimated expenditure. These orders had to be revised and in case of major municipalities who find all the money for a sanitary scheme except the centage charges, Government could only contribute 28 per cent. of the total cost on account of establishment, tools and plant charges.

To give only a few examples in the Public Works Department.

Under Buildings 38 new items were provisionally admitted by the Finance Department in the budget of 1928-29, but only 3 could be included in the budget for 1928-29, i.e., the proposed provision was Rs. 15,63,000 but the amount actually provided was only Rs. 96,000.

In 1927-28 out of 68 new items originally proposed under "Buildings" only 8 were included in the budget.

In 1926-27 out of 81 new items provisionally admitted only 2 were included in the budget.

As regards "communications" the same tale has to be told. In 1928-29 in all 64 new items were proposed out of which only one was included in the budget. In 1927-28 only four out of 70 and in 1926-27 three out of 60 were included in the budget.

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

OTHER THAN CIVIL WORKS

In 1927-28 the allotment for new items provisionally admitted by Finance Department were :—

Recurring	..	..	..	Rs. 7.3	lakhs
Non-recurring	..	..	..	15.7	..
Total				23.0	..

The sum ultimately sanctioned was :—

Recurring	..	..	..	3.2	lakhs
Non-recurring	..	..	..	8.8	..
Total				12.0	..

i.e., out of 244 items provisionally admitted only 102 were finally included in the budget.

In the budget of 1928-29 out of 210 items proposed only 68 were admitted. The charges proposed were :—

Recurring	..	..	..	Rs. 6.3	lakhs
Non-recurring	..	..	..	10.5	..
Total				16.8	..

Out of these only the following were admitted :—

Recurring	..	..	..	2.4	lakhs
Non-Recurring	..	..	..	3.4	..
Total				5.8	..

I could go on multiplying such instances to point out to this honourable House how we are handicapped in our expansion. In spite of all these difficulties the short review which I have taken of the working of the different departments in the previous part of my speech will show what Government have been able to achieve. It has been made possible by the taxation I have referred to, by the remission of the Provincial Contribution and the curtailment of the Famine Fund assignment. Let us hope that the Simon Commission before whom this Government have put forward a strong case will be able to see how we have been hit and that we shall get a more equitable settlement in future. It seems to be admitted almost on all hands that the industrial provinces must be given a share in the income-tax revenue and also in the proceeds of the super-tax.

26. Government have been able to present a balanced budget by rationing departments to their utmost limit. All the departments were allowed only the average amount of expenditure and were compelled to include new items within their rationed figure.

In spite of all these our financial difficulties, it is not proposed to ask for any fresh taxation except to request this honourable House to put permanently on the statute book the Court-fees and the Stamp Acts as the little increase which we get from those duties is absolutely necessary just for a bare minimum.

With these words, Mr. President, I present the Budget to this honourable House.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That finishes the business for the day. As usual, as it is the month of Ramzan, the House will meet from to-morrow at 1 p.m. and continue till 6 p.m. The tea interval will be between 4 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Sir, I consulted the members of the Finance Committee as regards the starting point of the Demands for Grants, and the members of the Finance Committee all told me that the Demands for Grants should be taken from the beginning, and they will be taken accordingly.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The House is adjourned to 1 p.m. to-morrow, Tuesday, the 19th February 1929.



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

Tuesday, the 19th February 1929.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, on Tuesday, the 19th February 1929, at 1 p.m., the Honourable the President, Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI, Bar-at-Law, presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Khan Saheb
 ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
 AHMAD, the Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 AMBEDKAR, Dr. B. R.
 AMIN, Mr. H. J.
 ASAVALE, Mr. R. S.
 BALAK RAM, Mr.
 BHOSLE, Mr. M. G.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 BRANDER, Mr. J. P.
 BROWNE, Mr. D. R. H.
 CHANDRACHUD, Mr. N. B.
 DABHOLKAR, Sir VASANTRAO
 DAWOODKHAN SHALEBHOY, Mr.
 DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
 DESAI, the Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D.
 DESAI, Mr. J. B.
 DESHPANDE, Mr. L. M.
 DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
 DOW, Mr. H.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Sir
 GILDER, Dr. M. D.
 GINWALLA, Mr. F. J.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH, Mr.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HOTSON, the Honourable Mr. J. E. B.
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM, Mr.
 JANVEKAR, Mr. D. A.
 JATOI, Khan Bahadur HAJI IMAMBAKSH KHAN

JITEKAR, Mr. HAJI IBRAHIM HAJI MAHOMED
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JONES, Major W. ELLIS.
JOSHI, Mr. S. C.
KALE, Rao Bahadur R. R.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KNIGHT, Mr. H. F.
LAIRD-MACGREGOR, Mr. E. G.
LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY ABDULLABHOY
LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
MACKIE, Mr. A. W. W.
MACLACHLAN, Mr. D.
MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
MARTIN, Mr. J. R.
MARZBAN, Mr. P. J.
MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
MUNSHI, Mr. K. M.
NAIK, Rao Bahadur B. R.
NANAL, Mr. B. R.
NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
OLIVEIRA, Mr. F.
OWEN, Mr. A. C.
PATEL, Mr. J. R.
PETCH, Mr. F. W.
PRADHAN, the Honourable Mr. G. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOUSENALLY M.
RIEU, the Honourable Mr. J. L.
SAKARLAL BALABHAI, Mr.
SHAIKH ABDUL AZIZ ABDUL LATIF, Mr.
SHETH, Mr. A. D.
SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
SHROFF, Mr. CHHOTALAL R.
SMART, Mr. W. W.
SMYTH, Mr. J. W.
SOLANKI, Dr. PURUSHOTTAMRAI G.
SURVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
SYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
SYED MUNAWAR, Mr.
THORAT, Sardar S. B.
THORNBUR, Mr. J. P.
TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
VANDEKAR, Rao Saheb R. V.

WASIF, Mr. G. A. D.

WILES, Mr. G.

WINTERBOTHAM, Mr. G. L.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order. Questions.

GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS : TEMPORARY GRADUATE
TEACHERS.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of posts in the cadre of graduate teachers in Government secondary schools in the Central Division and the Bombay Division, which have not been permanently filled ;

(b) the number of teachers who have been kept on probation on those posts and why they have not been confirmed in those posts though they have passed the B.T. examination ;

(c) whether Government are aware that it is a hardship to those teachers if they are not confirmed in their posts though they have put in more than four years' service in the Department ;

(d) when they intend to confirm them in their posts ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFTUDDIN AHMAD : (a) 41*

—	Vacant.	Filled on probation.	Total.
Central Division	4	18	22
Bombay Division	2	17	19

* Including posts in Training institutions and excluding special posts.

(b) 35 (Central Division 18 *plus* Bombay Division 17).

When teachers are selected for deputation to the Secondary Training College they are clearly warned that no guarantee of permanent service could be given them even after their training in view of possible reversion of inspecting officers.

(c) Leave is admissible to probationers under the leave rules which would be applicable to them if they held their posts substantively. Probationary service also counts towards increments. Probationary teachers are not, therefore, at any immediate disadvantage except perhaps that they have not the same security of tenure as permanent men.

(d) Owing to the uncertainty of the effect of the transfer of control of primary education to local authorities under the Bombay Primary Education Act, 1923, on the strength of the Government Inspecting staff, it cannot be definitely stated at this stage when these probationers will be confirmed.

N.B.—The information given in the above reply was collected in September 1928.

THRESHING GROUND, NYAYA DONGRI.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no suitable common threshing ground in the village of Nyaya Dongri, taluka Nandgaon, district Nasik;

(b) whether they are aware that this conduces to the detriment of rural economy in the village;

(c) whether it is a fact that Mr. Jamnadas Shivaram Bari, an agriculturist of the village, submitted in March 1927 a representation to the Collector of Nasik requesting him to take steps for acquiring a survey number in the village for use as a common threshing ground and offering to pay the amount of compensation that may be fixed;

(d) what steps the local authorities have taken or intend to take to provide the village with a suitable common threshing ground?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a) There is no common threshing ground in the village.

(b) Government are not so aware.

(c) and (d) Yes; but the petitioner applied for the acquisition of a survey number which in the opinion of the local revenue authorities was not suitable for the purpose. The local authorities have already selected certain land as best suited for the purpose of a village threshing ground, and if the people agree to pay for the cost of the acquisition of this land, steps will be taken to acquire it.

POONA SUBURBAN MUNICIPALITY: CASH BALANCES.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rules of the Poona Suburban Municipality provide that "when there is at the Municipality a cash balance in excess of four months' average expenditure, the fact shall be brought to the notice of the President by the Chief Officer and the President shall thereupon obtain the orders of the Poona Municipality as to its investment in Government Securities;"

(b) whether it is a fact that the cash balance in the hands of the Poona Suburban Municipality is in excess of four months' average expenditure ;

(c) if so, whether the Chief Officer and the President of the Municipality have taken action as required by the rule mentioned in (a) above ? If not, why not ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) This does not arise.

POONA SUBURBAN MUNICIPALITY : POWERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Poona Suburban Municipality has invested its President with all the powers of the Standing Committee required to be constituted under section 37 of the Bombay City Municipalities Act and that he is now deciding appeals and exercising other powers, to be exercised by the Standing Committee ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : Yes. The President has been empowered temporarily to execute the functions of the standing committee by a rule sanctioned by Government under section 58 (b) read with section 46 of the Bombay City Municipalities Act, 1925, until rules regarding the constitution and election of the said committee have been framed by the Municipality and sanctioned by Government.

GOVERNMENT SERVICE : RECRUITMENT FOR BACKWARD COMMUNITIES AND MOSLEMS.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA (Bombay City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) to what extent (giving figures wherever possible) effect has been given to Government Resolution of 1925 whereby they have prescribed a minimum percentage of recruitment from members of the backward communities to the public services ;

(b) the number of vacancies that have been filled since the above resolution ;

(c) the number of members of the backward communities that have been appointed ;

(d) the number of Moslems that have been appointed ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : (a) to (d) A statement showing permanent vacancies filled from 5th February 1925 to 1st September 1927 is placed on the Council Table.

Statement of Permanent Vacancies

Name of the Office	Total vacancies (permanent)	Backward classes (including Muham-madans)	Muham-madans
1	2	3	4
Legal Department and office of the Secretary,			
Legislative Council	5	4	..
Finance Department	7	7	1
Home Department	1	..	..
Public Works Department	13	3	1
General Department	8	5	2
Revenue Department	9	4	1
Office of the Government Pleader, High Court,			
Bombay	1	..	..
Director of Information	1	..	..
Oriental Translator	6	3	2
Office of the Sindhi Translator	2	1	1
Jail Department	11	1	..
<i>Revenue Department.</i>			
Collector of Bombay	5	3	..
Collector of Bombay Suburban District	4	2	..
Commissioner in Sind	11	5	5
Collector of Karachi	16	9	9
„ Hyderabad	7	4	4
„ Sukkur	16	9	9
„ Larkana	17	12	12
„ Nawabshah	29	16	16
„ Thar Parkar	12	5	5
Deputy Commissioner, Upper Sind Frontier	2	2	2
Commissioner, Northern Division	2	1	..
Collector of Ahmedabad	14	8	1
„ Kaira	16	8	2
„ Panch Mahals	10	5	1
„ Broach	14	8	4
„ Surat	18	9	1
„ Thana	24	11	2
Commissioner, Central Division	7	2	1
Collector of Ahmednagar	18	5	1
„ East Khandesh	14	10	1
„ West Khandesh	12	8	3
„ Nasik	18	15	3
„ Poona	22	12	1
„ Satara	23	15	2
„ Sholapur	9	4	..
Commissioner, Southern Division	4	4	..
Collector of Belgaum	15	10	1
„ Bijapur	13	12	3
„ Dharwar	14	11	4
„ Kanara	14	6	2
„ Kolaba	7	5	3
„ Ratnagiri	27	14	3
Commissioner of Excise	27	11	1
Superintendent of Salt and Excise, Sind	11	4	4
Chief Conservator of Forests, Bombay Presidency	2	2	1
Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle	9	2	..

Name of the Office	Total vacancies (perma- nent)	Backward classes (including Muham- madans)	Muham- madans
1	2	3	4
<i>Revenue Department—contd.</i>			
Conservator of Forests, Central Circle	18	..	..
Do. Sind Circle	5	5	5
Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, Bombay Presidency	3	1	..
Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, Sind and Rajputana	1	..	..
Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records	28	3	..
Superintendent of Land Records in Sind	5	3	3
Director of Agriculture	18	5	1
Registrar of Co-operative Societies	12	4	2
Superintendent of Stamps, Bombay	3	..	..
Do. Karachi	3	..	..
Registrar of Companies	1	..	..
Manager, Encumbered Estates, Sind	3	1	1
Inspector General of Registration	16	7	1
Collector of Abkari and Salt Revenue, Aden ..	1	1	1
<i>Judicial Department</i>			
Office of the Prothonotary and Registrar, Original Jurisdiction	7	..	..
Office of the Chief Translator and the Interpreter, Original Jurisdiction	7	2	2
Registrar, High Court, Appellate Side, Bombay ..	5	3	1
Translator's Office, Appellate Side	3	..	..
Judicial Commissioner	6	3	3
Sheriff	2	..	..
Bombay Small Causes Court	25	7	2
Chief Presidency Magistrate, Bombay	5	3	..
District Judge, Hyderabad	4	1	1
Do. Sukkur	4	1	1
Do. Larkana	4	2	2
Do. Ahmedabad	36	17	9
Do. Kaira	3	2	2
Do. Surat	2	1	..
Do. Thana	11	1	..
Do. Ahmednagar	4	2	1
Do. East Khandesh	6	4	..
Do. West Khandesh	17	12	5
Do. Nasik	10	7	2
Do. Poona	2	..	..
Do. Satara	8	4	..
Do. Sholapur	4	4	1
Do. Belgaum	11	8	1
Do. Bijapur	7	1	1
Do. Dharwar	10	6	1
Do. Kanara	1	..	..
Do. Ratnagiri	12	7	..
Subordinate Civil Court, Tatta	1	1	1

Name of the Office 1	Total vacancies (perma- nent) 2	Backward classes (including Muham- madans) 3	Muham- madans 4
<i>General, etc., Departments</i>			
Factory, Steam-Boiler and Smoke Nuisance Department	2	1	..
Labour Office	5	..	..
Department of Industries	6	2	1
Government Central Press, Bombay	10	4	..
Yeravda Central Prison Press	10	3	..
Surgeon General's Office	7	2	..
J. J. Hospital, Bombay	3	..	..
Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, Bombay	1	1	1
Cama and Albless Hospitals	1	..	..
Haffkine Institute	4	1	..
Grant Medical College, Bombay	1	..	..
Chemical Analyser to the Government of Bombay	1	1	1
Port Health Officer, Bombay	1	1	..
Civil Hospital, Hyderabad	1	..	..
Nawabshah Dispensary	1	..	..
Civil Hospital, Ahmedabad	1	1	..
Do. Ratnagiri	1	1	..
Assistant Director of Public Health, Southern Registration District, Belgaum	1	1	..
The Director of Vaccine Institute, Belgaum	1	1	..
Director of Public Instruction's Office	8	..	..
Educational Inspector in Sind	2	..	..
Do. do. Central Division	2	..	..
Inspectress of Girl's School in Sind	1	..	..
Deputy Educational Inspector, Sukkur	1	..	..
Do. do. Kaira	1	..	..
Do. do. Broach	1	..	..
Do. do. Urdu Schools, Central Division	1	1	1
Secondary Training College, Bombay	1	..	..
Elphinstone College, Bombay	1	..	..
College of Engineering, Poona	1	..	..
Naushahro Madressah and High School	1	1	1
R. C. Technical Institute, Ahmedabad	1	..	..
Urdu Training School, Ahmedabad	1	1	..
<i>Police Department</i>			
Office of the Inspector General of Police	6	2	1
Deputy Inspector General of Police, Criminal Investigation Department, Northern Range and Southern Range and the Principal, Nasik Police Training School			
Commissioner of Police, Bombay			
Deputy Inspector General of Police, Sind			
Superintendent of Police, Railways, Karachi	2	1	1
District Superintendent of Police, Karachi	3	2	2
Superintendent of Police Headquarters, Karachi	5	2	2

Name of the Office	Total vacancies (permanent)	Backward classes (including Muham-madans)	Muham-madans
1	2	3	4
<i>Police Department—contd.</i>			
District Superintendent of Police, Hyderabad ..	2	1	1
Do. do. Larkana ..	2	1	1
Do. do. Sukkur ..	1	..	..
Do. do. Thar and Parkar ..	2	1	1
Do. do. Nawabshah ..	4	2	2
<i>Northern Division</i>			
District Superintendent of Police, Thana ..	3	1	..
Do. do. Surat ..	1	..	..
Do. do. Panch Mahals ..	1	..	..
Do. do. Broach ..	1	1	1
<i>Southern Range</i>			
District Superintendent of Police, Nasik ..	2	1	1
Do. do. West Khandesh ..	3	1	1
Do. do. East Khandesh ..	2	1	1
Do. do. Satara ..	2	2	2
Do. do. Sholapur ..	1	1	..
Do. do. Kolaba ..	1	1	..
Do. do. Bijapur ..	1	1	1
<i>Public Works Department</i>			
The Chief Engineer in Sind ..	20	8	8
The Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle ..	8	5	1
The Superintending Engineer, Northern Circle ..	6	3	1
The Sanitary Engineer to Government ..	2	2	..
The Electrical Engineer to Government ..	4	..	..
The Superintending Engineer, Central Circle ..	15	8	2
The Superintending Engineer, Deccan Irrigation Circle ..	4	..	..

RAILWAY STATION DHARAMSHALAS.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR on behalf of Mr. SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many railway stations between Colaba and Sanjan and between Victoria Terminus and Kasara have dharamshalas?

(b) how many of these dharamshalas are in good condition?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a) The information is given below :—

Bombay, Baroda and Central
India Railway line.

Bandra.
Goregaon.
Borivli.
Bassein Road.
Virar.
Saphala.
Palghar.
Boisar.
Vangaon.
Dahanu Road.
Sanjan.

Great Indian Peninsula
Railway line.

Kasara.

(b) All these dharamshalas in which, however, neither Government nor the Railways in question have any concern are reported to be in good condition.

COMMISSIONER OF EXCISE : TOURS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of permanent travelling allowance per mensem of the Commissioner of Excise ;

(b) the number of days he has been on tour away from Bombay, excluding halts for the Legislative Council at Poona during the years 1927-28 and 1928-29 and the number of months during which absolutely no touring was done in each year ;

(c) the number of offices of Superintendents of Excise, Distilleries, Warehouses and other offices examined by him during the above two years for which memoranda have been drawn up ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) Rs. 250.

(b) The Commissioner was on tour for 38 days during 1927-28 and for 15 days in 1928-29 (up to 31st August 1928) exclusive of halts for the Legislative Council session at Poona. No touring was done in the following months :—

1927-28—April and September 1927, January and March 1928.

1928-29—(up to 31st August 1928)—April, June and July 1928.

(c) 1927-28—Owing to pressure of work no offices of Superintendents could be examined. The Nasik and Khanapur distilleries were inspected but no memoranda were drawn up as inspection reports are drawn up by the Government Auditor. Warehouses are not examined by the Commissioner as a matter of routine, because periodical inspection is done by the Inspectors of Warehouses and Superintendents.

1928-29 (up to 31st August 1928).—One office of a Superintendent was examined. The Nasik Distillery was visited and inspected but no memorandum was drawn up for the reasons stated above. Three Warehouses were visited and inspected, though memoranda have not been drawn up.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Is not the amount of Rs. 3,000 a year at the rate of Rs. 250 a month excessive in view of the fact that the Excise Commissioner has toured only for 38 days during the year ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Rather.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Will the Honourable Minister see that some change is made in the allowances ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The question will be examined.

CRIMINAL TRIBE : CHHARAS, AHMEDABAD.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that some nomadic people, called Chharas, have built small huts on the western bank of Sabarmati near the end of the Ellis Bridge ;

(b) to whom the plot of land on which the Chharas are encamped belongs ;

(c) on whose authority those Chharas have been allowed to encamp there ;

(d) whether it is a fact that they are committing thefts of various descriptions like the robbing of corn from passing carts in the early morning ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the police authorities found a large stock of mill cloth buried in the sands of the river-bed ;

(f) if the answer to (e) is in the affirmative, what steps Government have taken in the matter ;

(g) what steps Government have taken to get rid of these Chharas ;

(h) whether Government have included Chharas among criminal tribes and are keeping their regular roll and marking their presence ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) Yes.

(b) To Government.

(c) The occupation of the land is unauthorised.

(d) No case of the kind specially mentioned by the Honourable Member has been reported to the police, but it is understood other thefts have been committed.

(e) A theft of cloth worth Rs. 188 from the river-bed was reported to the police on the 31st December 1927. The police searched the huts of the Chharas and found cloth worth Rs. 150-11-0.

(f) Thirty-four Chharas were prosecuted under section 411, Indian Penal Code, and 23 were convicted.

(g) and (h) The Chharas have been brought under the Criminal Tribes Act. The police keep a watch over their movements and the names of those who are bad characters are entered in the surveillance register.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : As regards answer to (c) has proper authority been given to the Chharas after the receipt of this question or are they still living on unauthorised land ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: They are still living on unauthorised land.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: Why do Government allow them to live on unauthorised land?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: The local authorities have apparently not thought it worthwhile to remove them from that land. Government have no further information on the point.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: Can anybody occupy land without authority?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: That is asking for opinion.

GUJARAT COLLEGE PROFESSORS: ATTENDANCE AT AHMEDABAD YOUTH LEAGUE MEETINGS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the principal of the Gujarat College issued a circular ordering the professors to refrain from attending any meetings convened under the auspices of the Ahmedabad Youth League;

(b) whether it is a fact that a professor of the college who was to lecture on the anniversary day of Dr. Annie Besant was prevented from fulfilling his engagement as a result of the said circular;

(c) if the answers to (a) and (b) are in the affirmative, under what authority the principal is permitted to pass such orders?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: (a) and (b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) Does not arise.

BOMBAY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Honourable Minister of Education himself made all the Bombay Educational Service appointments until the beginning of the year 1928;

(b) whether after the beginning of the year 1928 the Honourable Minister of Education delegated the power of making some of the Bombay Educational Service appointments to the Director of Public Instruction;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, what are those posts in whose case the delegation of power has been made and what are the reasons for the delegation of power in the case of each of those posts?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: (a) Until December 1927, appointments in the Bombay Educational Service were made by His Excellency the Governor with the concurrence of the Minister of Education.

(b) Under orders issued in December 1927 the power to make some of the appointments has been delegated to the Director of Public Instruction.

(c) Power has been delegated to the Director of Public Instruction in respect of the appointment of Head Masters of High Schools and Principals of Primary Training Colleges, subject to the right of appeal from any officer who considers that he has been unfairly passed over. As the appointments must be made on educational merits it is a matter well within the competence of the Director and one with which he may be safely trusted to deal.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: How can the Honourable Minister retransfer the powers which have been transferred to him under the Government of India Act to a member of the bureaucracy or a member of the Imperial Service by such a delegation?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: I have no desire to do so.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: How is it that powers which are vested in the Minister and which he has been exercising have been transferred against the spirit of the constitution under which we have been working?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: We have delegated many other powers to our subordinates.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: Under what Act has the delegation been made?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Will the honourable member kindly give notice about it?

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI: Is it at the sweet will and pleasure of the Minister that powers are delegated?

(No answer.)

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: The Honourable Minister has got power to take back the powers he has delegated. Will he take back those powers?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: He can take back the powers he has delegated but he has no desire to do so.

AYURVEDIC MEDICAL STUDIES.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state with reference to the reply to the question put by Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan, printed on pages 337-338 of Volume XXII of Bombay Legislative Council Debates—

(a) as to what has been the outcome of those enquiries made of the Government of the United Provinces;

(b) how many scholarships have been founded;

(c) the names of the scholars, if any, who have been granted scholarships for the study of Ayurvedic Medicine?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: (a) The United Provinces Government have replied that they would be prepared to

receive scholars from this Presidency, if scholarships were founded for them.

(b) and (c) The proposal to grant scholarships for the study of Ayurvedic Medicine has been deferred owing to financial stringency.

INDIGENOUS DRUGS : PAREL LABORATORY.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have appointed a special officer to investigate the properties of indigenous drugs at the Parel Laboratory ;

(b) if so, what the name of that officer is ;

(c) what drugs have been investigated by him ;

(d) which of those drugs have had their effects studied and recorded in the hospitals ;

(e) which chemicals, drugs and medicines have been proposed by the special officer, referred to in (a), for local manufacture with a view to reduce the imports of such articles from foreign countries ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) Yes.

(b) Reverend Father J. F. Caius, S.J., F.L.S., M.S.C.I. (Paris).

(c) *Holarrhena antidysenterica*,

Butea frondosa,

Gymnema sylvestre,

Nyctanthes arbor-tristis,

Wrightia tinctoria ; *W. tomentosa*,

Alstonia scholaris,

Garcinia mangostana,

Terminalia arjuna ; *T. tomentosa* ; *T. Chebula* ; *T. bellerica* ;

T. catappa ; *T. paniculata*.

(d) *Holarrhena antidysenterica*,

Butea frondosa,

Nyctanthes arbor-tristis,

Wrightia tinctoria ; *W. tomentosa*,

Alstonia scholaris ;

Garcinia mangostana.

(e) None so far.

AYURVEDIC COLLEGE : PROGRESS IN MADRAS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are watching the progress and development of the Ayurvedic College at Madras with a view to establishing a similar college in the Bombay Presidency ;

(b) if so, what conclusions have been arrived at by them as regards the success of Ayurvedic College at Madras ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : I think answers have been given here very often that Government were watching the progress of the experiment of the Ayurvedic College at Madras for the purpose of having a similar institution in Bombay : here the answer is in the negative.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : Is the Honourable Minister aware that such declarations have been made in the Council ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Yes.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : But this reply is not consistent with the declaration.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : What declaration was it ? Will you kindly give me the exact wording of the declaration ?

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : The declaration, as far as I remember, was that this Government were watching the progress of the Ayurvedic College in Madras before making up its mind as regards the establishment of a similar institution in this presidency.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Will the honourable member give me notice of the exact wording of the declaration ?

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Those are the exact words.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Those are not the exact words.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Then, what are the exact words ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : It is not for me to answer.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : The predecessors of the Honourable Minister were watching the experiment. Have Government stopped watching the experiment since the appointment of the present Minister to his office ?

PRANTIJ MUNICIPALITY : HOUSE TAX.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Ahmedabad in his letter No. M. U. N. -75, dated 24th January 1928, suggested to the municipality of Prantij that if the municipality could not impose further taxes, the municipality should be terminated and a village panchayat should be established in Prantij ;

(b) whether in pursuance of the suggestion of the Collector of Ahmedabad the municipality of Prantij resolved on the 9th July 1928 that the municipality should be terminated and that a village panchayat should be established and duly forwarded the said resolution to the Collector of Ahmedabad ;

(c) if the answers to (a) and (b) are in the affirmative, what were the reasons for using the extraordinary powers of Government under section 74 of Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901, and for issuing notification no. 7148, dated 31st July 1928, enforcing the increase of house tax in Prantij by 50 per cent. ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The reasons which led Government to use the extraordinary powers under section 74 of the Act were stated in Government Notification No. 7148, dated the 31st July 1928.

PRANTIJ MUNICIPALITY : HOUSE TAX.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they received an application from the people of Prantij protesting against Government Notification No. 7148, dated 31st July 1928, and requesting that the municipality be terminated and a village panchayat be established ;

(b) if so, what action Government took in the matter ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) Yes.

(b) Attention is invited to Government Notification No. 7148, dated the 22nd October 1928, published at page 290 of Part I-A of the *Bombay Government Gazette*, dated the 25th October 1928, directing an increase of the house tax by 50 per cent.

VILLIFICATION OF HINDU GODS AND TEMPLES.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to the articles on the fifth and sixth pages of *Aftab-e-Islam*, dated 24th March 1928, a monthly magazine published in Ahmedabad in which Hindu gods and temples are villified in a way most provocative to the Hindus ;

(b) if so, what action they have taken in respect of those articles ;

(c) what steps they have taken to prevent publication of such articles in the columns of the said magazine in future ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) Yes.

(b) The editor, who is also printer and publisher of the paper, was prosecuted under sections 292 and 295-A, Indian Penal Code, and convicted under both sections. He was sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 300. The Court also ordered that all copies of the issues of the paper, in which the offending articles were published, found in his possession and also the copies which had been produced in Court should be destroyed.

(c) It is hoped that this prosecution will prevent the publication of such articles in the paper in future.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES : *Madadgar*, NADIAD.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that *The Madadgar* of Nadiad has in its issue dated the 26th August 1927 written an article against Shivaji ;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what action Government have taken against the writer and publisher of that article ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) Yes.

(b) None.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : As regards reply (b), may I know why no action was taken ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : The answer to that is the same as the answer given to part (b) of the next question.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES : *Munsiff*, SURAT.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that *The Munsiff* of Surat has in its issue dated the 2nd December 1927 written the following passage about Shivaji :—

“ He (Shivaji) was a dog without a tail and an ass who went to hell after death ; ”

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what action Government have taken against the writer and publisher of that passage ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) The articles referred to in this question and in the Honourable Member's next three questions did not come to the notice of Government until their attention was invited to them by the questions themselves.

(b) Government did not consider it necessary to take any action. The paper was a mere mushroom, which only lived for five months, and never at any time had any influence. It had ceased to exist nearly nine months before the articles were brought to light.

The same applies *mutatis mutandis* to the article in the *Madadgar*. The *Madadgar* was regarded as a paper of no influence whatever and it was not considered worth while to take notice of the article.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : May I know whether Government have appointed a responsible officer to find out and bring to their notice any such articles that are published in newspapers ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : Government are ordinarily informed by the Oriental Translator and the District Magistrate of any articles which appear to them to deserve notice ; but occasionally some articles escape their notice.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : May I know whether the District Magistrate brought to the notice of Government this article which has been brought to the notice of Government by the honourable member Mr. Swaminarayan ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : As I have already told the honourable House, this is one of the articles that were not brought to the notice of Government until the question was asked. When it was brought to notice, Government considered the article and decided what course should be followed.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: May I know whether Government are going to ask the explanation of the officer concerned why he did not bring this article to the notice of Government?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: I am afraid Government have no such intention. The officers do their duty according to the best of their ability, and we understand every now and then an oversight does occur which is not necessarily blameworthy.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: May I know who will be held responsible for the negligence in this particular case?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: Nobody.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI: Does that paper exist now?

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: That has been replied.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES : *Munsiff*, SURAT.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that *The Munsiff* of Surat has in its issue dated the 9th December 1927 written the following passage against Shivaji :—

“Shivaji the deceitful was not only a robber but he was a murderer, a faithless man, a dacoit. He was a murderer of women and children;”

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what action Government have taken against the writer and publisher of that passage?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the answer given to his question above.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES : *Munsiff*, SURAT.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that *The Munsiff* of Surat has in its issue dated the 16th December 1927 written an article against Shivaji ;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what action Government have taken against the writer and publisher of that article?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the answer given to question above.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES : *Munsiff*, SURAT.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that *The Munsiff* of Surat has in its issue dated the 30th December 1927 written the following passage against Shivaji :—

“You (the Hindus) exalt most savagely Shivaji who is universally acknowledged as a faithless and untrustworthy robber who owned a small estate only through the favours of the Moghuls;”

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what action Government have taken against the writer and publisher of that passage ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the answer given to his question above.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS : MINIMUM NUMBER OF STUDENTS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have issued a circular to the recognized secondary schools, prescribing the minimum number of students to be kept in middle school classes and high school classes ;

(b) if so, the minimum numbers prescribed by that circular ;

(c) the number of students in each of the classes of the recognised secondary schools of Ahmedabad during the years 1926-27 and 1927-28 ;

(d) the schools of Ahmedabad in which the provision of minimum numbers prescribed by the circular referred to in (a) is violated and the reasons why such violation is not prevented by the Educational Department ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFTUDDIN AHMAD : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The attached statement contains the required information.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement showing the number of students in secondary schools

Name of Institution	Year	Number of students			
		I		II	
		Division	Number	Division	Number
1. L. P. Mission High School ..	1926-27 ..	A	25	..	37
		B	26		
	1927-28 ..	A	20	..	33
		B	22		
		C	24		
2. Model High School ..	1926-27 ..	A	37	A	36
		B	36	B	34
				C	32
	1927-28 ..	A	36	A	35
		B	35	B	32
				C	34
3. Tutorial High School ..	1926-27 ..	A	40	A	42
		B	41	B	42
		C	31	C	41
		D	39	D	31
		E	42	E	29
		F	28		
		G	38		
	1927-28 ..	A	33	A	38
		B	34	B	39
		C	32	C	36
		D	31	D	38
		E	37	E	38
		F	25	F	28
		G	37	G	27
4. J. L. New English School ..	1926-27 ..	A	37	A	25
		B	34	B	28
		C	23	C	24
	1927-28 ..	A	34	A	34
		B	34	B	30
		C	23	C	21

of Ahmedabad City during the years 1926-27 and 1927-28.

studying in standard

III		IV		V		VI		VII		Remarks
Division	Number	Division	Number	Division	Number	Division	Number	Division	Number	
..	15	..	12	..	10	..	10	..	26	
..	37	..	21	..	14	..	12	..	21	
A	43	A	35	..	44	..	46	..	33	
B	46	B	32							
A	42	A	33	..	38	..	40	..	29	
B	44	B	30							
A	42	A	39	A	33	A	35	A	32	
B	42	B	37	B	32	B	37	B	27	
C	45	C	30	C	32	C	37	C	23	
I	37	D	26	D	30	D	34	D	18	
								E	44	
								F	38	
A	37	A	42	A	35	A	41	A	50	
B	42	B	39	B	31	B	39	B	30	
C	42	C	41	C	36	C	41	C	50	
D	20	D	28					D	53	
E	24									
A	25	A	32	..	48	A	32	A	29	
B	27	B	34			B	31	B	21	
A	28	A	25	A	23	A	38	A	35	
B	31	B	22	B	24			B	31	

Name of Institution	Year	Number of students				
		I		II		
		Division	Number	Division	Number	
5. New High School ..	1926-27 ..	A	40	A	42	
		B	39	B	41	
	1927-28 ..	A	34	A	47	
		B	45	B	47	
		C	40			
		D	35			
		E	32			
	6. City High School ..	1926-27 ..	A	32	A	39
			B	33	B	32
			C	35	C	35
D			36	D	37	
E			34			
1927-28 ..		A	39	A	40	
		B	39	B	40	
		C	40	C	40	
7. Proprietary High School ..		1926-27 ..	A	41	A	50
			B	42	B	42
	C		43	C	37	
				D	38	
				E	36	
	1927-28 ..	A	53	A	35	
		B	55	B	37	
		C	54	C	33	
		D	54	D	33	
	8. Sheth B. P. Jain D. V. English School ..	1926-27 ..	A	41	A	35
B			40	B	38	
1927-28 ..		A	45	A	34	
		B	45	B	30	

studying in standard

[illegible]

Name of Institution	Year	Number of students			
		I		II	
		Division	Number	Division	Number
9. Anjuman-e-Islam A. V. School ..	1926-27 ..	A	34	..	29
		B	35		
	1927-28 ..	A	34	A	22
		B	32	B	27
		C	30		
		Infants		Standard I	
10. Mt. Carmel School ..	1926-27 ..	A	22	..	22
		B	30		
	1927-28 ..	A	25	..	24
		B	23		

studying in standard

III		IV		V		VI		VII		Remarks
Division	Number	Division	Number	Division	Number	Division	Number	Division	Number	
..	24	..	21	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	25	..	30	..	14	..	..	..	..
Standard II		Standard III		Standard IV		Standard V				
..	15	..	9	..	7	..	6	..	..
..	18	..	16	..	13	..	3	..	..

REVENUE SETTLEMENT REINQUIRY, VIRAMGAM TALUKA.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to place on the Council table the full text of the Government Press Note, dated the 29th June 1928, by which the reinquiry into the revenue settlement of the Viramgam Taluka was ordered?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: A copy of Press Note No. P.-138, dated 29th June 1928, is placed on the Council table.

It will be remembered that in November last Government suspended the levy of the new rates of assessment in the Viramgam Taluka of Ahmedabad District consequent on the introduction of the revised settlement in view of the disastrous floods that had occurred in the previous July. As a result of the investigations since made by the Collector and the Commissioner, Government are satisfied that the floods have had the effect not only of impairing the quality of the soil for some time to come but also of crippling the resources of the cultivators. In these circumstances they have decided that a further enquiry into the state of the taluka is desirable. An officer will accordingly be placed on special duty in the coming cold weather, and on receipt of his report Government will consider whether any modification in the present settlement is called for.

REVENUE SETTLEMENT REINQUIRY OFFICER, VIRAMGAM TALUKA.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to place on the Council table the full text of the Government resolution by which Mr. M. J. Dixit was appointed as a special officer to enquire into the revenue settlement of Viramgam Taluka?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: Government are not prepared to do so.

Rao Bahadur B. R. NAIK: Are Government resolutions confidential papers? The reply is that Government are not prepared to do so.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: It depends on the circumstances of each case.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Is there anything in that resolution appointing Mr. Dixit as settlement officer in conflict with the existing revenue law and rules thereunder?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: Nothing at all, I think: I can assure the honourable member on that point.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: On what grounds is this resolution treated as confidential?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: Because it contains reports from the officers of Government which are intended for the perusal of Government only. The opinions expressed cannot be made public.

VEGETABLE MARKET, SHAK-BAZAR, AHMEDABAD.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) when the construction of the vegetable market in the Shak-bazar of Ahmedabad City was begun;

- (b) when the construction of the said market was finished ;
- (c) the amount spent by the Municipality of Ahmedabad on the construction of the said vegetable market ;
- (d) the amount contributed by Government towards its construction ;
- (e) the total amount spent in its construction ;
- (f) the period of time during which the said market has remained unoccupied ;
- (g) the loss sustained by the rate-payers of Ahmedabad owing to the construction of a gorgeous building which has remained unoccupied since its completion ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) February 1925.

(b) 15th July 1926.

(c) Rs. 1,11,141.

(d) Nil.

(e) Rs. 1,11,141.

(f) The market was closed from the 1st April to 30th November 1927.

(g) If the market had remained fully occupied without interruption during the period in question, the Municipality would have received rent to the extent of Rs. 19,680. The building was necessary on hygienic grounds and the market now yields 6 per cent. on the cost.

COUNTRY LIQUOR SHOP : AHMEDABAD.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. Bapalal Hargiwandas Travadi, the priest of the temple of Shree Ranamukteshwar Mahadeo, has been applying to the local and higher officers of Government requesting that a country liquor shop situated in the vicinity of his temple be shifted to some other locality, in view of the fact that drunkards are harassing women coming to the temple for daily prayers, and further in view of the religious feelings of the Hindu devotees of the temple which are being violently outraged ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the premises of that liquor shop were damaged during the heavy rains which fell during the last week of July 1927, and that the shop was shifted to another locality ;

(c) whether the said priest applied to the Collector of Ahmedabad on 15th August 1927 requesting that the shop which was removed should not be again brought back to the premises near the temple ;

(d) the reasons why in spite of the application of the said priest, the Collector did not take any action in the matter and allowed that country liquor shop to be brought to the premises near the temple ;

(e) why in spite of an unobjectionable site being available as mentioned in (b) Government have kept the shop near a Hindu temple ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a), (b) and (c) Yes.

(d) and (e) The shop which was temporarily removed to another site, was shifted back to its original site on 15th August 1927, the day on which the priest applied to the Collector. As the original site was more suitable for a liquor shop than the one to which the shop had been temporarily shifted, the request for changing the site of the liquor shop was not then complied with. Steps have since been taken to remove the shop to a new site.

LIQUOR SHOP NEAR TEMPLE, AHMEDABAD.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Excise Committee has recommended in its report that liquor shops should not be located near places of worship like Christian Churches, Parsi Agiaris, Moslem Musjids and Hindu Temples ;

(b) if so, why a liquor shop has been located near the Hindu temple of Shree Ranmukteshwar Mahadeo, outside the Raipur Gate of Ahmedabad, in spite of the repeated protests of the priest of the temple and other numerous Hindu devotees visiting the said temple for their daily prayers ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) Yes.

(b) Steps have been taken to remove the shop to a new site approved by the Excise Advisory Committee.

DHOLKA MUNICIPALITY : REPORT ON MANAGEMENT.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to place on the Council table the report of the enquiry officer deputed by the Collector of Ahmedabad, in the month of December 1926, to institute enquiries into the management of Dholka Municipality as revealed by correspondence published in *Gujarati Punch* of Ahmedabad and the orders passed by the Collector of Ahmedabad on that report ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : No officer was specially appointed to make investigations but certain enquiries were made by the Collector. The substance of the information procured by the Collector was forwarded to the President of the Dholka Municipality. Government regret that they are unable to place on the Council table copies of the relevant official documents as such correspondence is for official purposes only.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Is it on the same ground—that it is confidential—or any other ground ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : We will not be serving any public interest by disclosing that.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : May I know whether that is to be decided only by Government ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : By the Government who are in charge of the correspondence.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Was any action taken by the President on the information supplied by the Collector ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : So far as I know, whatever information was collected by the Collector was forwarded to the President of the Dholka Municipality ; what the President thereafter did I am not in a position to say.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : May I know whether the record of the whole enquiry made by the Collector was supplied to Government by the Collector ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : I am not aware of it.

TEACHERS : TRANSFERS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether general orders have been passed by the Educational Department that no transfers should be made in the districts after 15th June when the rainy season begins ;

(b) whether the deputy educational inspector of Ahmedabad made many transfers of teachers after 15th June 1927 ;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, what were the reasons for making those transfers ;

(d) the names of the teachers who were so transferred and the reasons for the transfers in each case ;

(e) the names of the teachers whose transfers were subsequently cancelled ; and whether any and what posts have been kept vacant by the cancellation of those transfers ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) No.

(b) Some orders for transfers of teachers were issued by the Deputy Educational Inspector, Ahmedabad, after the 15th June 1927.

(c) and (d) The accompanying statement A gives the information required by the Honourable Member for the Ahmedabad District.

(e) No orders of transfers were cancelled ; the question in the latter part does not arise.

Statement A referred to in the reply to parts (c) and (d) of the question.

List of teachers transferred after 15th June 1927.

Serial No.	Name	Reasons for transfer
1	Nanamia Mujatmia..	.. At his own request. He got Rs. 5 as H. M.'s allowance.
2	Maganlal Bhaishanker	.. Wanted to go nearer Modasa, his native place.
3	Gatulal Motiram ..	.. His wife was not keeping good health; so he wanted to be nearer Modasa.
4	Chhaganlal Nanabhail	.. Belongs to Nikol, T. North Daskroi, and he wanted to go in his Taluka.
5	Maganlal Dalsukhran	.. Transferred owing to irregular attendance.
6	Devashanker Jagjivan	.. He was due for postal allowance and higher H. M.'s allowance.
7	Savabhai Haribhai ..	.. Irregular attendance.
8	Popatlal Chhaganlal	.. He was due for H. M.'s allowance and he asked for it.
9	Bhaishanker Muljiram	.. At his own request. Nearer his native place.
10	Dhirajlal Amratlal ..	.. At his own request.
11	Ramabhai Purshottam	.. Do.
12	Purshottam Nanchand	.. He had to be transferred to make room for No. 3 who was very unhappy, his wife having turned mad. He was given the H. M.'s allowance.
13	Bhalabhai Vallabhbhai	.. At his own request.
14	Someshwar Bhaishanker	.. Had grown unpopular with the people. He had been there for 10 years.
15	Ratilal Mohanlal ..	.. Owing to unsatisfactory work.
16	Madhavlal Keshavlal	.. At his own request.
17	Manilal Haribhai ..	.. Do.
18	Motilal Chhaganlal ..	.. Do.
19	Damodar Dayaram	.. Do.
20	Chunilal Kasturchand	.. Unsatisfactory work.
21	Sankalchand Mansukh	.. Do.
22	Ambalal Chhaganlal	.. Do.
23	Maganlal Prabhashanker	.. He was due for a higher H. M.'s allowance and was transferred to Harsol where the post was vacant as the Head Master retired.
24	Manilal Keshavlal ..	.. He was due for the H. M.'s allowance so he was posted nearer his native place as H. M.
25	Mohanlal Bapuram	.. At his own request.
26	Umedmia Badumia ..	.. Do.
27	Rewashanker Ranchhod	.. He wanted to be transferred from Kashindra, but he could not be posted nearer his native place Kavitha, Taluka Dholka, as he was suspected of creating trouble; hence he was posted as H. M., Hansol, T. North Daskroi.
28	Hiralal Kishordas ..	.. Unsatisfactory work.
29	Popatlal Chunilal ..	.. Do.
30	Dalpatram Mahashanker	.. At his own request as one of the parties in the village wanted to do him harm.
31	Nagerlal Vishwanath	.. Poor work.
32	Bechargir Mulgir ..	.. At his own request.
33	Munabhai Chaturbhai	.. Do.
34	Naranbhai Govindbhai	.. Do.

Serial No.	Name	Reasons for transfer
35	Bhagvandas Nathabhai	At his own request.
36	Baberbhai Umedbhai	Do. He got the postal allowance.
37	Prabhatsing Jivabhai	At his own request.
38	Shanabhai Govindbhai	Do.
39	Vanmali Lallubhai ..	Do. Got the H.M.'s allowance.
40	Manishanker Naranji	Do. Transferred to his native place.
41	Mani Bapuji ..	At her own request. Wife of No. 40.
42	Jivraj Bhagvan ..	At his own request.
43	Diwali Thobhan ..	Do.
44	Ravji Hathising ..	} Had to be sent out as his wife No. 45 was quarrelling with the Head Mistress.
45	Kevli Maganlal ..	
46	Harnarayan Ishverlal	
		This man had unnecessarily quarrelled with leading men of Deydi and neighbouring villages and was always quarrelling with his assistants. He had grown unpopular in the village as he had not paid up the unspent balance to the village people of the rent for the village Dharamshala rented for the school. He had to be further punished.
47	Ranchhodlal Jivabhai	The teacher was transferred as he got the trees of the Local Board Compound cut by school boys and took away the wood for his private use.
48	Dayabhai Ishvarlal	As he was careless in his work, he had to be removed.
49	Shanta Bhavanishanker	She was a temporary hand and had to be removed to make room for a third year teacher.

TEACHERS : STRANDED DURING TRANSFERS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the names of teachers who were stranded by floods in July 1927 while changing their residence on account of transfers made by the Deputy Educational Inspector of Ahmedabad after the commencement of the rainy season ;

(b) whether some teachers who were so stranded and who produced certificates of being stranded by floods from the responsible leaders of the place of stranding have not yet been paid their salaries for the days during which they were so stranded ;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative what were the reasons for withholding those salaries ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) (1) Mr. Harnarayan Ishwarlal, (2) Zaverben Shivabhai.

(b) No ; both the teachers were paid their salaries.

(c) In view of the reply to part (b) above, this part of the question does not arise.

POONA COURT CLERK : PHYSICAL FITNESS.

Rao Sahab R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. V. N. Kanade, clerk of the Court, Poona, has been attacked with paralysis and has been consequently rendered unfit for further service ;

(b) if so, whether he was medically examined as to his physical fitness for office work ;

(c) whether it is a fact that owing to his inability to write and to hold the pen he uses rubber stamps for his signature ;

(d) whether it is also a fact that in order to show him on the regular establishment and with a view not to allow the office work to suffer a subordinate in the scheduled post has been appointed to do the writing duties which Mr. Kanade had to do before ;

(e) whether there is any Fundamental Rule whereby a Government servant physically rendered unfit may be allowed to remain in service ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) Mr. Kanade had an attack of paralysis in 1927, but recovered and has not been rendered unfit for public service.

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) No.

(e) No.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT, POONA DISTRICT : NON-BRAHMINS.

Rao Sahab R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of non-Brahmin Nazirs and Clerks of the Courts in the district and taluka courts of the Poona district ;

(b) if there are none, what steps Government intend taking in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) None.

(b) There are some non-Brahmins in the lower grades who will be appointed as Nazirs and Clerks of the Courts when their turn comes. It is not practicable to take any steps at present to expedite their promotion.

FARRIERS : LICENSE.

Rao Sahab R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases tried by the Honorary Presidency Magistrates during the last three years under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (Act II of 1890) ;

(b) how many of these cases were for employing animals lame on account of bad shoeing ;

(c) whether they are aware of the increase in the number of such cases due to bad shoeing ;

(d) what steps they intend to take to stop the evil ;

(e) whether it is a fact that they intend issuing licenses to qualified farriers for the city of Bombay and to make an amendment in the law accordingly ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a)

Year.				No. of cases.
1925	..	..	..	15,117
1926	..	..	..	21,778
1927	..	..	..	27,130

(b) Records are not kept of the causes of the lameness from which the animals are suffering.

(c) Government are aware of the opinion of the Chief Presidency Magistrate and the Society of Honorary Presidency Magistrates that a very large proportion of the cases of lameness are due to bad shoeing, and the matter is under consideration.

(d) and (e) The Honourable Member is referred to the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government.

• COLLEGE OF COMMERCE : GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the students in the College of Commerce who are getting the Government Scholarships reserved for students of the Hindu Intermediate and Backward communities ;

(b) the date of award of each scholarship ;

(c) the different castes they belong to ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a), (b) and (c) The appended statement gives the required information.

Statement.

No.	Name of the Scholar	Date of award of scholarship	Caste	Remarks
1	Mr. N. D. Khule ..	1st June 1926 ..	Maratha.	
2	„ M. K. Ingale ..	1st June 1927 ..	Nhavi.	
3	„ K. R. Dandekar ..	1st June 1927 ..	T w a s h t r a	
			Kasar.	
4	„ R. B. Kalyankar ..	1st June 1928 ..	Shimpi.	

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, SOUTHERN DIVISION : MUHAMMADANS.

Mr. G. A. D. WASIF (Central Division) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many Muhammadan clerks there are in the office of each of the Executive Engineers in the Southern Division ;

(b) whether Government intend to give effect to their Resolution No. 2610 of 5th February 1925 in the matter of appointments in the Public Works Department in the Southern Division ?

The Honourable Diwan Bahadur HARILAL DESAI BHAIR : DESAI :

(a) There are three Muhammadan clerks in the Southern Circle out of whom two are in the office of the Superintending Engineer and one in the office of the Executive Engineer, Belgaum Division.

(b) Effect is being given to the orders.

DEATH OF LALA LAJPATRAI

Mr. C. R. SHROFF (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Mr. President, with your permission I will read the Resolution first:

"This Council" places on record its deep and profound sorrow at the sad and untimely demise of Lala Lajpatrai, M.L.A., the great Social Reformer and Educationist of India and authorises the President to forward a copy of this resolution to the family of the deceased."

Mr. President, I do not feel there is any necessity for me to explain the high qualities that were possessed by the late Lala Lajpat Rai and the valuable services that he rendered for his mother country. Sir, in him we have lost a great educationist and a social worker. It may not be possible here that all the honourable members of this House agree with the political views of Lala Lajpat Rai. (An honourable member: Why not?) But if we keep aside this point, I think every honourable member of this House will admit that the late Lala Lajpat Rai had sacrificed his whole life for the uplift of his ignorant countrymen. As Indians we are in duty bound to express our deep sorrow at the untimely and premature death of Lala Lajpat Rai who was born in India, who lived for India and who died for India. With these words, Sir, I place this resolution before the House and hope that this House will give it its solid support.

Question proposed.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE (Satara District): Sir, on behalf of the Coalition Nationalist Party, I fully associate myself with what has been said by the mover of this resolution. No doubt the matter is somewhat now late, but as this Council meets for the first time after the sad event, I think it is due that honourable members of this House should express their feelings of sorrow at the sad and somewhat unexpected death which the great leader of India met under circumstances which have been now too well-known to need any repetition. I fully associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the mover of the resolution.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Mr. President, I fully associate myself with the terms of the resolution and the sentiments expressed by the two speakers. There can be no doubt that the sad death of Lala Lajpat Rai will be deplored, in fact, it has been deplored by every community in this country. The Viceroy paid a very befitting and handsome tribute to the great qualities of the great Punjab patriot and also to the very human personality with which he was endowed. Lala Lajpat Rai was a very conspicuous figure in the national life of this country. To my mind he played the same important part in the Punjab as the late Mr. Justice Ranade and the late Mr. Gokhale played in the entire national life of this country. He was a politician; he was a great social reformer. He felt for the poor and the humble and he devoted his energies and his material resources to the uplift of the depressed classes. He was an Indian. Though it may be very difficult for any Indian to be so fully Indian as to be absolutely above the peculiar and special considerations of the particular community to which he may belong, still there is no doubt that the entire life-work of Lala Lajpat Rai was characterised by the single desire of bringing about unity among

[Mr. R. G. Pradhan]

the different communities of this country, building up the inner strength of India and doing his best to realise the consummation which we all have at heart, namely, that India may, in the fulness of time, attain to her stature as an equal member of the British Commonwealth of nations.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) (Addressed the House in Marathi) : Mr. President, it is indeed a matter of great sorrow that it should be necessary to bring forward such a resolution before the House, a matter of sorrow not only to the people of this presidency but to the whole of India. There is no doubt that the late lamented Lala Lajpat Rai was an uncrowned King in the eyes of the poor citizens of this country. While expressing the sorrow naturally felt at his untimely death, it has also caused a great resentment among the people. The excellent work that Lala Lajpat Rai was doing in the peaceful condition of the British Empire was not properly appreciated and realised by the wicked bureaucracy, and he was attacked by the police. Although the country is in a very bad plight at present, the department of Government which has very little weight or value with people in the country thought it fit to assault a leader like Lala Lajpat Rai and tried to take a sort of revenge on him. This is very distressing. The history of the death of Lala Lajpat Rai makes one's hair stand on end.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. The honourable member evidently, if I have understood and followed him right, is referring to the unfortunate incident that occurred in connection with the late lamented Lala Lajpat Rai at Lahore. This is not the place to discuss that. Let us now lament the unfortunate death that has caused a loss to India.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL: I bow to your ruling, Sir. If you look at Lala Lajpat Rai's work during the last 40 or 50 years, you will find that it is very rarely indeed that we can have social workers and benefactors of the poor like him. So, it is but natural that the death of such a great man should be felt most keenly by this Council. While expressing this heartfelt sorrow, I would request my honourable friends to also consider the circumstances which led to all this. I think, Sir, my honourable friend Mr. Chotalal Shroff has done a great service by bringing forward such a resolution, and I strongly support it.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Sir, on behalf of the Congress Swaraj Party, I appreciate the sentiment that has been expressed by the honourable member Mr. Shroff in moving this resolution. The whole country has been a great loser by the untimely death of Lala Lajpat Rai. He was a lifelong worker in the political field. He was also a worker in the social field and educational field. We fully share his views in the political, social, as well as educational field of activities. He worked for his own country. He lived for his country and has died for his country, and I think it would be in the fitness of things that this House should place on record the great loss sustained by the whole country at large by the untimely death of such a great patriot.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE (Ahmednagar District): Sir, I fully appreciate the views expressed by the mover of this resolution. Lala Lajpat Rai was a great patriot and has done a great work in the political field. More than his political activities, his social and religious activities were important. India, if she needs anything, needs more work in social reform and religious field, because we have got more of politics than we want. Lala Lajpat Rai was right in carrying on his activities not only in the political field, but also in social and religious field. India is really a loser by the premature demise of Lala Lajpat Rai and this House really deplores his death. I fully associate myself with the resolution that is moved by the honourable member for Thana.

Mr. S. C. JOSHI: Sir, on behalf of labour I fully associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the honourable members while speaking on this resolution. There is no doubt that the late Lalaji was a true nationalist, and under his guidance India has made a great advance. He was, however, a particular friend and guide of the labour and of the depressed classes, and as such under his guidance the labour movement has flourished a good deal, and in his death the labour movement has suffered a great loss, and I fully associate myself with the sentiments expressed.

Khan Bahadur S. N. BHUTTO (Larkana District): Sir, I associate myself with the resolution moved, on behalf of the Muslim members of this Council.

Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District): Sir, on behalf of the Karnatak I fully associate myself with the sentiments that have been expressed in this House regarding the untimely death of Lala Lajpat Rai. Sir, his was a life given solely to the cause of India and the uplift of the masses. His whole life was a great sacrifice, we can say, for the relief of the trodden, and he used all his energies for the uplift of India in various spheres of life. With this sentiment I fully support the resolution which has been brought by my honourable friend Mr. Shroff.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: Mr. President, Government associate themselves with the feelings of regret at the death of Lala Lajpat Rai and of sympathy with the members of his family which have found expression in the course of this debate.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I will now put the resolution and, as usual, the House will accept it by each honourable member rising in his seat.

The resolution was then put and carried, the honourable members rising in their seats.

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: We will now take up the general discussion of the budget. The time limit will provisionally be 20 minutes to begin with, but I will curtail it as we get along if I find it necessary to do so.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Sir, this is the ninth budget that we are discussing and ninth from the introduction of the reforms. The Honourable the Finance Member has thought it fit and desirable to compare the reform period with the pre-reform period. We accept the challenge. He has tried to show that during the reform period, the Government have built up the nation, *i.e.*, the nation-building departments have progressed more than during the pre-reform period. Perhaps the Honourable the Finance Member has a short memory. All his predecessors did suffer from that malady, but I never thought that the present Finance Member, who was for about three years with us, also suffered from the same disease. Unfortunately, with the transference of his seat to the other side, he has tried to prove that the nation-building departments have had the special attention of Government and have made quite a satisfactory progress. I am sorry to say that those persons whom we called autocrats and those who are called bureaucrats handed over the reins of Government to the reformed Government, namely, Government composed of seven Indians, gave in charge a balance of three crores and a productive debt of about 890 lakhs. What is the condition during the last nine years ? We have incurred a debt to the extent of over 40 crores. Out of that a lot of it, a great portion of it, is unproductive and the Presidency will have to curtail its normal progress for years to come. That Government handed over to us 63 lakhs of rupees to be spent on famines and in precarious tracts, on protective works. But, what has this Government done ? This Government has robbed the poor cultivators and the poor people of this Presidency of that Famine Fund on which they always relied for water supply and other grants, and now we shall have to rest satisfied with a few thousand rupees doled out by the Commissioners who do not listen to us although our parts may be badly in need of funds for expenditure under that head. What is this due to ? It is due to the fact that Government have proved during the last nine years hopelessly unfit to cope with the heavy responsibilities that were entrusted to them. Take, for example, the nation-building departments. In the 1921 budget the nation-building departments spent 478 lakhs. What do we find in the year 1929-30 ? The nation-building departments, about which my honourable friend (the Honourable the Finance Member) grew so eloquent, will have to spend only 448·94 lakhs. That is indeed a great achievement and as Government have co-operated with the Simon Commission, please present this matter to the Simon Commission. Tell them that the Reform machinery was so arranged that though there were seven Indian members they were not able to keep pace with the demands that were made upon them for the nation-building departments which were entrusted to them by the old regime. I really regret, Sir, that instead of increasing those amounts, instead of fighting with the Finance Member or instead of fighting with the Members on the Reserved Side, the Transferred side has succumbed to the demands of the Reserved side. What has this reformed Council done ? The reformed Council, in order that the transferred side may not be starved, has given three crores more revenue, that is, from 1158 lakhs it has been raised to 1441 lakhs, the ordinary revenue. The Government will get about 14½ crores. In

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this increase of 3 crores, the reformed Council has given at least 40 to 50 lakhs more on excise alone. Still, in spite of that, the expenditure on the nation-building departments, about which the Honourable the Finance Member was so solicitous, has dwindled by 30 lakhs or so. What is the reason for that? The reason is that moneys have gone to the reserved side like anything. The reserved side has practically snatched from the transferred side to meet its own demands, some lakhs of rupees and the Government have absorbed some lakhs to meet their losses on doubtful ventures and to increase the salaries of the different services. This increase alone is in the neighbourhood of 3 crores of rupees as stated by Sir Henry Lawrence.

I still say that we have not yet lost confidence in the Government, but I do say that in the past Government have not treated this side fairly. They never had any confidence in what we said and they perhaps said "Do not listen to them; leave them all alone. They know how to oppose, but they do not show us the way." Still I would request Government that instead of saying that, kindly listen to us when we say that the end of the miseries of the Presidency has not come yet; the miseries are going to increase and multiply. Government cannot, by makeshifts and by window-dressing, continue in their present plight for any length of time. Sooner or later Nemesis will overtake them. It may not be in the time of the present Finance Member; it may be in the time of his successor, but the evil day is bound to come, and to minimise the evil, I would say to the Honourable the Finance Member "Take into your confidence a few members from this side of the House; appoint a committee to go through the whole budget, and take their advice for the necessary retrenchment." I would tell him that by canvassing, by getting a majority, by deceiving oneself, by deceiving the Council, the country and His Excellency the Governor, he cannot put off the evil day much longer. Instead of that, if he were to take into confidence a few gentlemen from here, and ask them to co-operate with him in effecting retrenchment, I dare say that we are prepared to bear the necessary odium, that we are prepared to bear the ignominies that would attach to our task, and show him the right path.

One fact which I wish to point out is that the Government have unfortunately taken away practically the whole of our Famine Insurance Fund. As a matter of fact, I had complained to the then Finance Member that to spend from the Famine Insurance Fund on objects the expenditure for which was met from the ordinary revenues was simply unfair. Take for example the expenditure on small irrigation works, existing irrigation works, and the works under the Indus River Commission. They were all financed from ordinary revenues; the boring operations were financed by the Agricultural Department. The Honourable the Finance Member quietly transferred all these items to the Famine Insurance Fund, and took away the moneys, say from the Agricultural Department, to the reserved side. These are of course the things which look to us to be highly improper on the part of Government. If the Honourable the

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Finance Member really wants to conscientiously move in the matter, let him just examine his own staff, let him examine himself, let him examine his own position in the Secretariat and the position of the other "reserved" Members too. In the Secretariat, the predecessor of the present Finance Member could get on with 19 clerks, but the present Finance Member wants 23 clerks. What for? What more work does he do? And for 23 clerks how many Superintendents does he require? There is 1 Chief Secretary, 2 Deputy Secretaries, 2 Assistant Secretaries, 24 Superintendents. And to supervise the work of how many clerks? Twenty-three clerks and 6 typists. Why is all this overhead staff necessary. For the information of the Honourable the Finance Member, I may venture forth the remark that the pre-Reforms expenditure of the Secretariat was in the neighbourhood of Rs. 8,60,000 and the pre-war expenditure about 7½ lakhs. Now it has been brought up to something like Rs. 19 lakhs. Does the country's progress since the Reforms merit such a huge expenditure in the Secretariat? Take for instance the Home Secretary. The Home Secretary has 1 Secretary, 1 Under-Secretary, 2 Assistant Secretaries, 30 Superintendents and Assistants, 26 clerks and 9 typists. Clerks are few, and over them so many Superintendents, Assistant Secretaries, Under Secretaries and Deputy Secretaries. Why all this expenditure? Of course the same state of affairs is repeated throughout. For example, in the Bombay Police force, with an expenditure of about Rs. 12 lakhs, order was kept by the Commissioner of Police in the pre-war days. Now, with an expenditure of about Rs. 32 lakhs, during times of trouble, he has to call the military for help. Such riots were handled by the Bombay police without the aid of the military, when the whole expenditure was somewhere in the neighbourhood of Rs. 12 lakhs or so. But even with the help of the military, the situation is not being handled satisfactorily by the present police.

The Honourable the Finance Member has given the achievements of the various transferred departments. I should like to point out that there also he has blundered, and in that connection I am reminded of one circumstance. In one of the speeches of the late Governor he stated that the Agricultural Department has found out a process by which smut in jowar was eliminated, and crops worth lakhs and crores of rupees were saved. Now, to put into the mouth of the head of the Province a discovery made in the year 1870 by a Madras Officer, of the practice prevailing in Madras as an achievement of the Agricultural Department of the Government of Bombay, appears to one who knows something about these matters as something which the Agricultural Department or for that matter the Honourable Minister of Agriculture has no right to be proud of. Again, take for example the cotton 1027 about which you say that there is a very great improvement. I have said often and often that it is not an improvement in money value, certainly not to the extent stated by the Honourable the Finance Member. To the cultivator it is not an improvement in the money value. If it were so, all over everybody would grow it. Mr. Fletcher who made that hybrid plant in 1906 himself did not appreciate its value. So, such statements

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appearing as they do in the speeches of honourable members have the effect of misleading the country, misleading the House and misleading the head of the province.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : What cotton is the honourable member speaking about ?

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : 1027, A.L.F.

Take again the case of tobacco. Because you employed a man there on the farm of the agricultural association and he carries out the policy of the association and isolates one of the varieties grown in the district over a large area, spreads or distributes it over a still greater area, you should not put it down as a credit for the department. Why the poor association has not been mentioned ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member is approaching the close of his time.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : I am sorry I have to close up so soon. I have to speak something on irrigation matters.

But I shall close my remarks by making one statement regarding a grievance about our province. Our province suffered from floods last year and has suffered from severe frost this year. If Government do not come to their aid and remit land revenue of the people who have suffered, I think the province will never survive these two calamities, and your existing revenue also will suffer in future. I rarely write letters to honourable members. But as this matter deserved the urgent attention of Government, I addressed a letter to the Honourable Mr. Rieu to remit the land revenue of those people whose crops have suffered during the frost. By remitting 20 or 30 lakhs of rupees and setting it down to the Famine Insurance Fund, Government will not lose anything and the poor people who have suffered will be benefited to that extent. (Bell rang.)

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI (Surat District) : Sir, before I actually discuss the budget, I would once again bring to the notice of the Honourable the Finance Member that the copies of the budget were supplied to the members at a very late stage. It did not leave sufficient time for them to make as careful a study of the Budget as they would have liked to make. I do realise that they have to collect many figures and that the Government Press are over-worked. All the same I would like to request the Honourable the Finance Member to make a serious effort to supply copies of the budget at an earlier date. Further, I must congratulate the Honourable the Finance Member for certain points in his speech. For one thing he has clearly summarised the changes made in the system of accounts which were greatly interfering with the proper understanding of the budget by several honourable members. Another thing for which I must congratulate him is that he has placed before us the present financial condition of the presidency in an honest and straightforward manner. His predecessors never brought clearly to the notice of the honourable members the exact condition

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of the finances of this presidency. The present budget shows a small surplus of Rs. 69,000, but it is really a deficit budget, if we take into account the fact that Government propose to take Rs. 30,00,000 out of the Famine Fund and utilise it for ordinary expenses and not for purposes of famine relief.

As regards the progress which the Honourable the Finance Member has tried to show as having been made in the presidency since the reforms, he has acted as a mere apologist and he might have left this to the Director of Information. If you compare the present position of the finances of this presidency with what it was five years ago, you will be immediately struck with the fact that we are heading straight towards bankruptcy. If we take the figures for 1922-23, 1923-24 and 1924-25 during which we were paying a contribution to the central Government, we will find that during each of these three years the surplus was 103 lakhs, 87 lakhs and 99 lakhs respectively or an average surplus of 96 lakhs. On the top of that we were contributing 56 lakhs to the Central Government. Further we were making a provision of Rs. 63,60,000 for Famine Fund. This year, on the contrary, we have taken Rs. 30,00,000 from the Famine Fund. If we make allowance for the surplus, the contribution to the Central Government, and the provision for the Famine Fund, we will find that our financial position is worse off by Rs. 245 lakhs. It is a very serious situation that within a period of five years our finances should be worse off to the extent of nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores of rupees. I find the Finance Secretary smiling at these figures.

Mr. G. WILES: Why are they worse off?

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI: The honourable member who preceded me brought an indictment against the policy of Government in increasing the expenditure on the secretariat staff. He pointed out that during the last 8 or 10 years it has been increased three-fold—on account of increase in pays and increase in the staff. Other honourable members will quote other figures as regards this portion of the question. But as regards the statement I have made that our finances are worse off by $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores, I might point out that out of this the Development Department expense comes to Rs. 40,00,000. There also it is most undesirable to make frequent changes in the system of keeping accounts, because it becomes difficult to make comparisons with the previous years. If Government make any changes in the system of accounts, they should show the figures for previous years in the changed form, so that it would facilitate comparison with the figures for previous years. It is the practice in some countries to change the figures for previous years to the new system and to show the expenditure for different departments for different years on the same basis. Sometime back the assessment of inam lands which is nearly a crore of rupees was transferred from Land Revenue to General Administration. Now, for the sake of comparing the figures which are printed in the Blue Book they should be so changed as to show the expenditure under Land Revenue exclusive

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of the assessment of inam lands, so that honourable members can make proper comparison and understand how matters stand.

As regards the progress made in the different departments as pointed out by the Honourable the Finance Member, I would tell him that he should be ashamed instead of being proud to say that we have made some progress. Take the case of education. He pointed out that the number of schools have increased from 12,714 to 14,373 in eight years. The increase for eight years works out to 1,659 schools. On a percentage basis it comes to 12 per cent. in eight years. For every year it comes to an increase of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. I ask, is this the rate of progress which can be considered satisfactory, especially in view of the fact that it is admitted on all sides that we have been too backward in the matter of education and that the one crying need of India at the present moment is education? Similarly, in secondary schools, the increase in eight years has been from 540 schools to 570 schools: that is an increase of 30 schools in eight years, and it works out to $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. per year. Moreover in the present year's budget Government say that they have made a provision of 15 lakhs for the expansion of primary education, which is the same as in the last year, but it is conditional on the Council agreeing to the increase in fees in colleges and schools. Unless the Council agrees to Government increasing the fees and getting an additional income of 2 lakhs thereby Government would not spend 15 lakhs, but only 13 lakhs. I would call this nothing but "melancholy meanness" on the part of Government. They know very well that parents in India are not well off and cannot send their boys to school if the fees are too high and some parents are even now unable to pay the high fees and are therefore unable to send their children to school. In these circumstances, to make expansion of primary education conditional on the Council agreeing to an increase in fees in schools is nothing but "melancholy meanness." I find from the budget that Government are contributing this year 10 lakhs from the ordinary revenues to the Sukkur Barrage expenditure. The Sukkur Barrage is going to pay its way; it has been sanctioned on that basis, and the Council has passed the Sukkur Barrage scheme on that ground. I, therefore, do not see why our revenues should be burdened to the extent of 10 lakhs for the construction of the Sukkur Barrage. Up to last year we were paying 10 lakhs from the Famine Fund and this year we are paying over 11 lakhs from the Famine Fund and 10 lakhs from the ordinary revenues. Why cannot Government set aside 2 or 3 lakhs from the revenue for primary education? There is no sense in enacting a legislation for primary education, making rules, asking local bodies to prepare schemes and then pigeon-holing those schemes and saying that unless you sanction the increase in fees we will not have any new schemes for compulsory primary education.

Now, if we look to Medical Department what do we find? We find that there is practically no increase in the current year. The only increase is Rs. 1,50,000 and that is in respect of three hospitals in Bombay—the Sir Byramjee Jeejeebhoy Children's Hospital, the Ellappa

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Balaram Pavilion, J. J. Hospital, and the Sir Currimbhoy Ibrahim Memorial Hospital. May I here enquire what Government are doing for medical relief in rural areas? After all, there are good medical facilities in big cities where there are a large number of private doctors also and where on payment of a small sum of money patients can get medical relief. What have they been doing all these years for the rural areas? There was a small scheme for having Prathamopacharakas and experiments are being made in that line, but no organised effort is being made. Just as His Excellency the Governor came forward and made satisfactory arrangements for hospital accommodation in Bombay, we want a similar scheme for rural areas. The needs of rural areas are much greater; the distress and misery of people in rural areas owing to lack of medical advice are tremendous. Even if a few doctors could be got to teach the people a few simple remedies for the ordinary diseases, that would greatly mitigate the distress in rural areas. I think it is high time that Government did something for the rural areas. Another thing which requires attention is the medical inspection of school pupils. It has been the experience of other countries like England that after the institution of medical inspection of school pupils there is a very great difference in the physique and constitution of the pupils, and I am quite sure that the benefits to India from such a system of medical inspection would be very much greater than in a country like England where there are greater facilities for medical relief and advice.

If we look to the other important department of Public Health, what do we find? We find that on paper there is a small increase of 2½ lakhs over estimated expenditure, but if we look into the matter carefully we find that it is due to the change in the system of accounting. Grants for village water supply, which used to be debited to a different head, are now debited to Public Health. So, there is no expansion of the activities of Government under Public Health as might appear from the figures of expenditure. There was a scheme for having an organisation in every district for public health, but still no action has been taken by Government, and they have not as yet started the organisation even in a single district. If Government are not in a position to have a public health organisation in each and every district, they could certainly start an organisation in one district and by working there they would acquire valuable experience of the difficulties of running the organisation. It is no use sitting with folded hands and saying that we have got no money, this scheme is going to cost so many lakhs, and therefore we cannot go in for it. If Government cannot spend lakhs, let them spend a few thousands and try it as an experimental measure in one district, and with the experience gathered Government would be in a much better position to organise public health departments in every district when we are more favourably situated.

If you take the Agricultural Department, what do you find? On a department on which the welfare of about 70 per cent. of the population depends Government are spending about 30 lakhs of rupees, and this

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department covers not only agriculture but also veterinary and co-operation. Moreover, the apparent increase in the expenditure of this department is also to some extent explained by a difference in the system of accounting. Till lately the amounts spent on boring operations were debited under a different head but it has now been ordered that expenditure with regard to boring operations should be debited to the Agricultural Department. In the current year the posts of Director of Research Station, Sakrand, and of Agricultural Engineer have been kept vacant. I would like to know why Government have kept these posts vacant. When you are launching on a scheme costing 20 crores and the success of that scheme to a large extent depends on the researches made and discoveries about crops, rotation of crops, manures, prevention of salts in the soil, etc. made by the Agricultural Department is it a wise policy to try and save a few thousands or a couple of lakhs of rupees by keeping vacant the posts of Director of Research Station, Sakrand, and Agricultural Engineer? I think if Government spend even a crore of rupees on research, it will pay them in the long run, because unless Government are ready with their schemes of crops and other things they would not be able to dispose of the large areas of land that are lying vacant, and unless people take up the land and grow crops they are not going to pay assessment, and the estimates made by Government of probable revenue from the Barrage and Canals will have to be reduced. Government will not be able to realise their estimates of revenue unless the Agricultural Department is in a position not only to supply information to the cultivators but also to give them practical assistance in the form of improved varieties of seeds. At present the department is not in a position to render valuable assistance, because they have not been able to do much research work.

On enquiry I learn that in Sind no research has been undertaken as regards the growing of fruit. So unless Government go ahead and prepare the ground in Sind especially after the Barrage starts working, there will be no improvement. The majority of Sind lands are being cultivated under Kharif crops. About 80 per cent. are cultivated in the Kharif season and about 15 to 20 per cent. in the Rabi season. After the Barrage starts working about 33 per cent. would be cultivated in the Kharif season and 66 per cent. in the Rabi season. Thus by the Barrage you are practically changing the nature of the cultivation in the whole province and when you are making such a big change, unless you are ready with the new methods, the cultivators would not be able to follow you. It will be many years before you will be able to induce the cultivator to change his mode of life, and to change the nature of his crops. So I would suggest that if Government cannot find more money from Revenue they should find money from borrowed capital. Just as they are spending 20 crores on the Barrage and other works, it would be worth while to spend 40 to 50 lakhs of rupees out of the borrowed money to carry on this work and to induce the cultivators to grow new crops, and unless that is done the estimates

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of income made by the Barrage officers would not be realised. They will not get more than 50 per cent. of what they expect unless the Department is ready with crops, seeds and can give other assistance. Moreover, I would also at this stage draw the attention of Government to the proposed Bill about the alienation of land in Sind. The restrictions which are proposed to be imposed on the transfer of proprietary rights of the lands could not possibly be put to the best advantage, and unless the lands are put to the best advantage, you will not be able to get the revenue which you expect. If the people who are in a position to buy the lands are not allowed to acquire them, and if the lands are allowed to remain, in the hands of people who will not cultivate them, then you will not get the revenue. I therefore earnestly request Government to give their careful consideration to the present condition of the finances and to cut down their expenditure by whatever means at their disposal,—by a reduction of the staff. At present we have got too many Government officers and though several of them might be doing useful work, we have to consider whether we can afford to have so many officers.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI (Indian Merchants Chamber): Sir, this budget that has been presented is a very disappointing document though it is a very frank document no doubt. The general discussion of the budget is given only a limited time and it is not possible for any one to discuss its main features which ought to be reviewed simply because it is only after the first instalment of the reforms period that we are reviewing what effect the political reforms have on the finances of this Presidency. If you are going to restrict, Sir, the limited time, it is not possible for me to review and to say something because when one thing is said another thing is left out, it is never possible to convey the full meaning of what you wish to say. It has been acknowledged by His Excellency in his speech and it has been confirmed by the Honourable the Finance Member that our finances are not only in a very unsatisfactory position, but there are no signs of improvement in the near future. In the near future the signs are more gloomy. I do not wish to criticise the transferred and the reserved sides, but I must say it is for the Finance Department to consider finance, and I give a note of warning that this House should consider very seriously the financial position. A question arises in the minds of honourable members that we are now discontinuing big items like 56 lakhs contribution to the Government of India and 63 lakhs towards Famine Fund, and on the other hand we secure 30 lakhs from Famine Fund which means we save about 150 lakhs. Explanations ought to have been given in the statement before us in the blue book. However, I will leave that question. I wish to point out the reasons of our financial position being reduced to the present condition which we are all deploring. To my mind this is greatly due, absolutely due to the commercial undertakings of the Bombay Government under the Reforms. This is one of the direct results that our Presidency has had to face and it is a legacy from the Reforms which posterity will have to suffer for a very long time. It will be proper at this time to say how these Reforms came

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about and how they were worked because much depends upon the financial policy because the financial policy also is a part of the political control that the present Government enjoys under the Montagu Reforms scheme of 1919. Under the Reforms no doubt, as the honourable member who opened the debate said that there are seven members. I do not blame the Indian Members for the present financial position because the Indian members have not got full freedom, so that under the circumstances in which the Indian members are selected by this Presidency I do not expect anything better than they have been able to do. Government have succeeded in creating so many divisions in this Presidency to enable them to rule as they like. Really the administration in the last ten years has been worse so far as sense of responsibility is considered. Before the Reforms Government did not dare to take up these commercial responsibilities which they now take up in the name of more Indian members in the Cabinet, and were responsible to the strict scrutiny of the Government of India. After all the Indian members are there at the good will and pleasure of the executive. No Indian Member is responsible to this House. If the Indian Members were responsible to this House, things would have been quite different. I would only take the House a little back, when in spite of the protests from the commercial bodies against the development scheme it was carried out by Government, and the protests were of no avail; but the executive Government was responsible to none and could do anything it liked. If you will take page 17 of the Honourable the Finance Member's speech you will find that this House has provided Rs. 20 lakhs for the estimated loss of Rs. 3 crores. He says that this figure may probably increase, as 20 lakhs that has been provided will not be sufficient. Then, Sir, about the other schemes,—the industrial housing scheme, the electric scheme and the water scheme,—I may point out on page 103 of the Blue Book that the industrial housing scheme shows that the revenue expected is Rs. 6,55,000 and the expenditure against that is Rs. 2,22,000 for repairs and maintenance and Rs. 1,24,000 is for establishments. I do not take into account interest, because, after all, interest has to be paid for our past follies already done. But if we take only the working price of these two items, we will see that the total cost is Rs. 3,38,000 against the recovery of Rs. 6,55,000. Now, little over 50 per cent. is only spent in this recovery and maintaining it in good order. Now, would any commercial body accept that it will run such a concern like this? Even the income-tax authorities never allow more than 6 per cent. for collection of rents. They do not allow beyond a certain small percentage for repairs. If 50 per cent. were allowed to landlords, for instance, I am sure they will take it as a boon. Because it is Government, they do not care what percentage is allowed, even if it be 50 per cent. If you take the interest charges, of course, it is a huge loss, which is greatly met from the cotton cess, but not fully.

Then, about water and electric supply schemes at Ambarnath. Though Rs. 40,000 was from sales of water, income from the water supply

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for 1928-29, the budget figure for 1929-30 is Rs. 84,000. On an income of Rs. 84,000 the expenditure is Rs. 42,000 irrespective of interest, on which the capital cost has been Rs. 48 lakhs, according to the Honourable the Finance Member. Now, if that is so, is it not better that Government even at this late hour should consider that this may be sold to any commercial syndicate who may take it over for any price that they may give. If they get Rs. 42,000, I am sure any commercial body would take it up; and then it is better to provide for interest charges. As regards the Ambarnath electric supply scheme, I cannot understand how it is conducted. The revenue expected is Rs. 28,000; the expenditure estimated is Rs. 33,000; the capital cost is about Rs. 14 lakhs. Would any commercial body, as I said, ever continue to work a scheme like that in this manner? And I do not know how the Honourable the Finance Member has been watching our interests in such concerns. Suppose it were a private company or a limited company, it would be taken up forcibly, either by the owners not continuing it or going voluntarily into liquidation. But here, because the taxpayer is at the mercy of the Government, he has got to find the money. Even on the top of all these concerns, the Honourable the Finance Member in his speech has said about the Central Salsette Railway,—about which I also referred in the previous two or three years,—and has acknowledged here that the whole expenditure on this was Rs. 85·63 lakhs *minus* Rs. 13·04 lakhs which was recovered from the cotton cess, and Rs. 32,000 from other miscellaneous receipts. The net remaining amount is Rs. 72·27 lakhs, which is a dead loss. This loss will have to be met from the general revenues also. This department alone is a great anxiety for all of us, and the sooner the accounts are made clear, it is better for the House to know the position in which they are.

Then, there is another scheme also, on which we have spent about Rs. 196 lakhs and in which we have to find the money. (After a pause): I leave that item, Sir. Now about this, what I wish to suggest is that those schemes that are not commercially sound, on which we have spent several lakhs, if they can be sold for any price for which any one would be ready to work them, it would be better not to run them but to sell them.

Now, about another big commercial undertaking we have taken up, and that is the Lloyd Barrage, about which also the remarks of the Honourable the Finance Member are worth considering. He says that the Lloyd Barrage estimates have gone up to Rs. 20,03,52,181. Out of this amount about Rs. 7½ crores have been spent up to 31st March 1928. Now, every time an assurance was given that the estimates were well within the first estimates that were presented to this House. Now, even the time is extended; it was 1931 before, it is extended now by four years, which means loss of interest and feeling of uncertainty as to its formal cost. If these commercial undertakings are going to be undertaken because the House is divided, because the presidency is divided, is it fair that Government should continue to carry them out recklessly as

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they are doing now? I can't do better than quote one passage from the Coronation Number of a paper which appeared on the coronation day of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan. The Coronation Number of *Asahi* has referred to this matter very properly, and I would refer to that; it is very proper for this Government, who think that they can do anything in any irresponsible manner to those whom they govern. Even in their own interest it will not be possible for them to exploit people any more, if they go on acting as they do by showing complete negligence of the economic interests of this presidency. The paper says:

"Self-assertion and domination are the evils of western civilization, as Bertrand Russell has so ably pointed out. History shows that any great power whose Imperialism dominates the world cannot long survive. If on the other hand a power makes it her policy to co-operate with other powers—weaker as well as the stronger—such a power is sure to long survive the ruin of materialized civilisation, the dawn of any power which adheres to self-assertion and domination. Will the advancement of Mutawil civilisation no future nation can successfully give itself over to self-assertion, nor can any nation dominate the world. Co-operation is the only means by which to subsist in the world, if a nation wants to go steadily forward in its culture and civilisation. Without it she will follow examples of previous powers whose declared history so lucidly attests....."

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: What page and what document?

Mr. LALJI NARANJI: I have taken a quotation from the Coronation Number of the *Asahi*, which was issued as a special supplement for the western nations in Japan on the occasion of the Coronation of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Is it in English?

Mr. LALJI NARANJI: Yes, it is in English. It was specially issued as a supplement for the western nations in English. Now, Sir, I will refer to a very important matter, which can be seen from the East India Association accounts for 1928, which are supplied by the Under Secretary of State for India for the year 1928-29, on page 10, about the burden of taxation. The burden of taxation is taken on all the Imperial items also. Items taken are customs, taxes on income, salt, and then provincial items, excise, registration and scheduled taxes. The total is excluding land revenue. The figures given are for 1926-27 and 1927-28 and 1928-29 (budget estimates) and show that the total taxation in India on these items in the year 1928-29 is 10909·11 lakhs and 3563·31 lakhs for land revenue, the total of which is 14472·42 lakhs. The payment per head, on the assumption that the whole taxation is paid by the inhabitants of British India, is, excluding land revenue, 4·244 rupees per head and, including land revenue, 5·630. That is the taxation that India has to bear. I quote this with the view that on 16 crores expenditure of this presidency, we pay about eight rupees per head. If we take the items of the Imperial Government which will be about 74 crores on 24 crores of population of British India which they have taken as the basis, it will be another three rupees. So, Bombay pays Rs. 11 per head against 5·63 for the whole of India. You can imagine, Sir, whether we have reached

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our taxation capacity, and thereby checked our making any progress. For that I will only refer to one statement because a statement like this only can enable the House to know what is our position, to see whether we have made any progress or whether we were making any progress. The Honourable the Finance Member in his paper has referred to the Agriculture and Co-operative Departments. I would ask him to state whether the income of the agriculturists has increased since the reforms, and if so, what per head? If it has, then there will be some satisfaction with the increase in the income of the agricultural population. Has there been any reduction of debt of the agricultural population as the result of the activities of the Co-operative Department? There is no reference to this in his speech and there is nothing given about the trade and industry. One can only see at a glance how the United States of America which was primarily agricultural and subsequently industrial, from the year 1913 to 1927, made progress, which can be seen by the number of returns of income-tax and the net income. It is given progressively. From 357,000 people in the year 1913 who were giving income-tax, the number rose in 1927 to 4,122,242. If a similar statement is taken by the Honourable the Finance Member of Bombay he will realise the position to which Bombay has been reduced under the Reforms. The statement prepared by the Finance Department to show our financial position is only misleading India. India has already been misled and already robbed and India does not own any more to be robbed. As stated by the *Coronation Asahi Journal*, they will be hurting themselves if they neglect the co-operation and economic progress of India. It is now more in the interest of the dominators of India also to keep India prosperous, which prosperity is not only diminishing but is now going from bad to worse owing to the self-asserting and dominating policy of Government, who has neglected the interests of both agriculture and industry. Government has always been looked upon for help and guidance. If Government's condition is solvent, those interests will benefit thereby and if Government's position is insolvent, then their interests will suffer. Such has been the view of agricultural and industrial population of this Presidency which is regarded as a premier presidency in the whole of India.

Another factor which I wish to point out is that in India there are two interests which are anxiously looked after by the Reforms period, namely. (1) the Civil and Military Services, and (2) the Commercial Interests of Great Britain at any cost to this country. One is to administer and the other to exploit. These two interests fully co-operate for this exploitation. Political control of India exists solely for the protection of those foreign non-Indian commercial interests against the legitimate Indian interests. If the commercial interests of the British people are looked after as they are now by exchange-shipping and banking powers, certainly that will reduce the prosperity of Bombay because Bombay, as we all know, is greatly a commercial town and is called the second city in our Empire. If these interests are to be ignored and neglected, I am sure

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that the financial position of this Presidency and the whole of India is going to suffer.

One thing more, Sir, about the statement of taxation, in the same page; we get nothing from taxation on income. For the last three or four years this presidency has not got anything but still Calcutta has been getting 33 lakhs. What is the reason? The reason is that industries in Calcutta which are in the control of European groups and who have the ear of the Government of India, always so very near to them that they are very well looked after on the Calcutta side. It clearly shows that income in Calcutta is maintained while Bombay is falling. In Bombay the only industry is the textile industry regarding which the Enquiry Committee is now sitting and therefore I shall not say anything about that matter. But if Government are going to be so callous of the interests of the only industry of Bombay on which the prosperity of this presidency depends, certainly it will be a great disaster first to the industry itself and then to Government themselves.

About the commercial policy I forgot to mention one or two points. Even in the present budget Government still continue the commercial policy of continuing the Karachi Land Development Scheme, for which information was asked in the Finance Committee but which has not been supplied. They have purchased two buildings in the name of the Development Department which are now shoved on to Civil Works, the expenditure of which kind and nature has increased from 96 lakhs in 1924-25 to 160 lakhs. It was 120 lakhs in the past year. The Government has advanced a loan to one Education Society and they have to take it, whether it is worth it or not. Two buildings have been purchased for the Development Department for about Rs. 13,50,000 and 8,00,000. They are now showed on to the Civil Works Department and the money is thus being wasted. I only appeal to the Government that let them change their policy of entertaining anxiety of securing votes at any cost to the improvement of general economic condition of this Presidency.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE (Satara District): Sir, as stated by the honourable member Mr. Shivdasani and other speakers, the financial position of this Government is admittedly not good, but the honourable member the Finance Secretary maintains that the position is not so bad as has been alleged. As regards the manner of budgetting the Auditor General in his Appropriation Report for 1925-26 states on page 32—

“It will be seen from the above statement that whereas under voted, there was a large saving of over 3·7 crores over the *net* available grant of Rs. 20·28 crores, giving a percentage of 18·24, under non-voted there was an actual excess of Rs. 47 lakhs over the *net* available grant.”

This clearly shows that there is a tendency to provide for more funds than are actually necessary in the case of voted expenditure to obviate demands for additional funds. It will be seen that the budget as presented to this House does not show the real state of things but that the

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items are liable to a great change, and finally we see that there are excesses in expenditure on many other heads. I will give a concrete instance of this to show how the budget figures do not prove to be correct. The revised budget for 1926-27 showed a deficit of Rs. 37,02,000 while actually there was a deficit of Rs. 1,65,62,000. The deficit budget presented to this House in 1927 has resulted in an excess of 55 lakhs making it a surplus budget of 16 lakhs. This is how the budgets are prepared and the final results brought home.

Another thing which is noticeable in these budgets is that expenditure has decreased under the heads on which on this side of the House there is a constant cry for increase.

I will show that on page 59 of the Blue Book there is a provision for grant for repairs of minor irrigation works. Next year the amount provided is Rs. 5 lakhs. The budget estimate for 1928-29 showed that Rs. 8 lakhs were to be spent on this head, while the revised estimate for the same year is cut down to Rs. 6,47,000, and what the actual will come to is not known. But we can see from the previous year's figures that the amount spent will be very small. In the Blue Book for 1927-28, the estimated sum was Rs. 7,76,000, but the actual expenditure on this head was very little (*i.e.*, Rs. 2,27,000). In 1926-27 also, though the estimated expenditure was Rs. 5 lakhs, the actual expenditure was less than Rs. 3 lakhs. I wish to bring to the notice of the House that the Special Engineer for Minor Irrigation Works is given Rs. 1,92,000, and he has to do works that will amount to Rs. 2,00,000. The pay of the establishment is Rs. 2 lakhs, and the amount to be sent by the department in the construction of works is nearly Rs. 2 lakhs. Although the amount budgetted appears large, the actual amount spent on works is very small; we find that we have to pay for the services of high officers, and we have to content ourselves with small amounts spent on these works. These works are very necessary, because they will prove useful to the agriculturists. And it is here that Government wants to save their money.

The position of the finances of this Presidency is going from bad to worse, because Government do not take into their confidence honourable members on this side of the House. There is a Finance Committee, but that Committee also is not taken into confidence; Only new items that are placed before the Committee are communicated to the members on the very day of the sitting of the Committee. Looking to the way in which the work of that Committee is carried on, I might say that in a good many instances the explanation given by Government in regard to the items of expenditure is that the money has been already spent, or that they have commitments, or that they must spend the money. It is thus that Government spend money of their own accord, and the opinion of the elected members of this House is not heeded to. In this way money is spent on items for which the previous sanction of this House is really necessary. Even without consulting the Finance Committee or taking into confidence the members of that Committee, money

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is spent and commitments of lakhs or even crores of rupees have been undertaken.

An attempt is always made to show that the finances are not good, and therefore fresh taxation is necessary. I would like to point out that in 1921-22 the ordinary revenue of this Presidency was Rs. 12,60,00,000, while it is estimated that for the year 1929-30 the ordinary revenue will be Rs. 15,23,00,000 and something more, which is an increase of nearly Rs. 2,62,000.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : That is not correct ; that is not ordinary revenue.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : I will show from the figures that it is correct. Some increase is due to increase under Interest. But leaving aside nearly Rs. 1 crore on account of interest, it will be seen that Rs. 1½ crores are realised by way of additional taxation, or increases in the existing taxation, and that a crore and a half more of additional taxation is being borne by the people since 1921-22 and mainly under the head Land Revenue. This is the head of revenue which is responsible for this extra amount. I can show that in the last ten years the Central Division alone is responsible for an increase of nearly Rs. 50 lakhs under Land Revenue. And how is this increase effected ? This Council has twice given its considered decision that there should be no increase under this head, unless there is a legal measure passed in regard to it. But the opinion of this House is flouted, and we find that every year increases in land revenue are imposed on the people. Government seem to think that the land revenue is like *Kāmadhenu*. As the *Kāmadhenu* gives as much milk as is wanted, so Government think that land revenue will give them as much money as they want. Again, if we compare the figures of land revenue from 1921-22 up to the present date, we find that the figure of land revenue is kept constantly the same. If at any time there is an increase, we find that a reduction is made for some reason or other. On page 35 of the Blue Book, you will find it stated that "these increases are however counterbalanced by a large provision for the, *deduct* entry under 'Land Revenue due to irrigation' necessitated by the recent orders of Government under which an additional amount of 16,15 representing the revenue from non-commercial irrigation works, mostly in the Deccan, has to be transferred to head XIV, Irrigation Works, for which no capital accounts are kept." It will be seen that up till now, that is up to the year 1927-28 this amount was credited to V, Land Revenue ; and the accounts of this year show that nothing was credited to head XIV. But from next year an amount of nearly Rs. 17 lakhs is deducted from ordinary land revenue and is credited to head XIV. So, after a year or two it will be seen that land revenue is just the same, and though there has been a constant increase under this head, attempts are made to show that there is practically no increase.

There has been an increase in expenditure under different heads, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, and 21. Most of the increases under these heads are spent

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on interest charges on different items, sinking fund, and ammortisation of debt for works like the Development Department and Lloyd Barrage Works. My honourable friend Mr. Shiydasani said that more money should be spent on the Sakrand experimental farm. But it will be seen that when crores of rupees are being spent on the Sukkur Barrage from capital account, the experimental farm at Sakrand is maintained at the cost of the Agricultural Department that is, the cost is borne by the ordinary revenues of the province and not out of capital. It will thus be seen that this Presidency has to bear additional charges on account of works of a capital nature, in the shape of interest to be paid on the moneys borrowed from the Government of India. For next year we find that Rs. 21 lakhs are being paid as interest charges for Sukkur Barrage, and another few lakhs for the Sakrand farm, from ordinary revenues.

Similarly, as has been pointed out by the honourable member Mr. Lalji, the Development Department has brought a great hardship on the revenues of the presidency. I wanted to know exactly the revenue under Major Head Land Revenue from the year 1920 to 1927. I put a question to that effect but I was not given a straight answer, but I was referred to the Land Revenue Administration Reports. I am now quoting the figures subject to correction, because I could not do anything else but refer to those reports. I hope the Honourable the Finance Member will correct me, if I am wrong. The total for the presidency for the year 1925-26 is Rs. 3,82,00,000 and including Sind it comes to Rs. 4,84,00,000, the revenue derived from Land Revenue. For 1926-27, it is shown as Rs. 5,02,00,000 and something more. But the figures on page 2 show that the Revenue receipts for the year 1925-26 is Rs. 5,41,00,000 and for 1926-27 the figure is shown as Rs. 4,66,00,000. There is a great discrepancy. Because there was a great discrepancy, I put that question, but I was again referred to some books in the office. I would therefore like to request the honourable member the Finance Secretary to explain why it is so. I may point out that Government always say that they have very little funds for nation Building Departments. We see that there is a balance of Rs. 5,00,000 unspent out of the money that was allotted for Education. Education is a nation-building department and foremost of all the departments. In that department they have not spent all the money allotted for it. Why so? Because they say that certain posts were allowed to remain vacant. If as a result of that, money is saved they might have spent it in other directions. Instead of doing that, Government have made a saving to the extent of Rs. 5,00,000 out of the allotted amount. On the other heads under which there should have been retrenchment Government are going to spend more.

I may point out an instance of this decrease and increase. We have this year an additional demand to be made for increasing the establishment of the High Court. The total amount that will be required for this is Rs. 27,000. As against this, there is a reduction in the establishment

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in the district court of Satara—30 karkuns are to be discharged. I do not understand how it is necessary to increase the staff of the High Court by spending an additional amount of Rs. 27,000 and how it is necessary to reduce 30 karkuns in one district of Satara. I do not know what prompted Government to make reduction in mofussil courts, and increase the staff in the High Court. Is it because the Bombay High Court is near and they can see things for themselves and make additional provision. This is how reductions are made and increases effected. At the top there is always an increase while at the other end of the ladder there is always a decrease. As my time is up I shall conclude.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Sir, the budget is being presented in a form which is more or less a puzzle to many persons. The total expenditure that is put down on page 17 is 16 crores of rupees; and the total expenditure that is put down on page 32 is 15 crores and 23 lakhs of rupees; and the total expenditure that is put down on page 29 is Rs. 14,40,00,000. The grand total of expenditure is put down in these three forms. To a man who would not go deep into the subject it would appear like a puzzle. On page 16 they have stated that the total expenditure is 16 crores, but from that they have to deduct an expenditure to the extent of Rs. 76,89,000 in the form of interest charges to be paid by the Development Department. In this way they put down the figures 15 crores and 23 lakhs. There also you have to pry deep into the matter. The other figure is not given and you have to refer to the other pages of the book and find out that the interest paid by the presidency corporations is Rs. 83,10,000. In this way they bring down the figure to Rs. 14,40,00,000. That does not show that the finances are prospering. The increase that they have obtained by fortuitous circumstances has not been useful to the Government for making progress where it is needed. Government have not been able to increase the expenditure in the proper way, because they have to make payments over which they are repenting to-day. They were given a warning when they began the expenditure on the Back Bay scheme: and it was pointed out to them that if they allowed expenditure on the Development Department, the finances of the Presidency would be destroyed ultimately and that nothing would be left for the nation-building departments. And that is what we see at the present time.

Sir, how have they balanced the budget in spite of the sum of 1,60 lakhs which have been placed at their disposal after the Reforms? Fifty-six lakhs contribution is not to be made to the Government of India; that is an addition which they have received. Then, they have not to pay 63 lakhs to the Famine Fund and they have got 21 lakhs in the form of the Entertainments and Betting taxes. Court-fees and Stamps also give about an additional revenue of 20 lakhs. In this way they get 1,60 lakhs more, and yet they have not sufficient money to balance the budget, and therefore they are drawing upon the Famine Fund to the extent of 30 lakhs. Thus, they have got 190 lakhs to their advantage, and yet their position is not a whit better.

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Now, I would like to state where this money has gone. The money has been dissipated in various ways. For example, let me take Land Revenue and General Administration. At one time some transfer of expenditure was made from Land Revenue to General Administration, and therefore I will sum up the expenditure under these two different heads. General Administration and Land Revenue in the current year are put on as 2,87 lakhs, while five years ago they were about 2,79 lakhs. These two items have taken away 8 lakhs. Then comes Excise. Excise has taken away 9 lakhs, and expenditure has increased from 35 lakhs to 44 lakhs. Then, under "Irrigation, 14, Interest on Works" for which Capital Accounts are kept, and "15" and "15 (1)" there is an increase of 20 lakhs and expenditure has gone up from 70 lakhs to 90 lakhs. Then, as I told you, the increase in interest has been 50 lakhs, because it has gone up from 1,55 lakhs to 2,05 lakhs under Debt Services. There has been an increase of 4 lakhs in Administration of Justice which has gone up from 68 lakhs to 72 lakhs. I am comparing the figures of 1923 with the figures of the current year. That is, in five years money has been taken away by these heads in the way I am mentioning. In Police you have gone up from 1,66 lakhs to 1,75 lakhs, an increase of 9 lakhs. Then, further on, under Civil Works you have gone up from 97 lakhs to 1,60 lakhs : so that department has taken away 63 lakhs. Now, when I sum up all these figures I get 1,63 lakhs of additional expenditure. Compared to that, what has Education, Medical, Public Health and Agriculture got? In Education expenditure has gone up from 1,83 lakhs to 2,02 lakhs; that is by 19 lakhs. Expenditure under Medical has gone up from 43 to 53 : that is 10 lakhs. In Public Health from 19 lakhs to 33 lakhs; that is 14 lakhs. In Agriculture the expenditure has gone up from 23 lakhs to 30 lakhs; that is 7 lakhs. In all, only 50 lakhs of rupees have come to the nation-building departments, while the other departments have had 1,61 lakhs. In this way, the money that was placed at the disposal of Government have been dissipated and the departments for which this House has the greatest solicitude have been practically starved.

Now, what is the way in which they are going to deal with these nation-building departments? The Honourable Minister says that no new schemes will be sanctioned under primary education Act—that is to say, education will stay where it was—unless we sanction increase of fees. The fifteen lakhs that were allotted last year will be curtailed to 13 lakhs during the current year, and in the next year he has put down 15 lakhs only on the assumption that the Council will agree with Government on the question of raising fees in colleges and schools. Government want to carry on in this way. They say they want to carry on. They have come to a standstill; they cannot proceed further.

In this connection, I wish to point out to honourable members one important fact which they will be able to perceive at once if they read pages 30 and 31 of the Blue Book. They will find that as compared with the budget estimates of 1927-28, the accounts of 1927-28 are better off

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by 55 lakhs ; in the accounts of that year they had an advantage of 7 lakhs in the Revenue section and 48 lakhs in the Capital section. In 1928-29 also, they say that according to the eight-monthly estimates they will have an increase of 6 lakhs in the Revenue section and a saving in expenditure debitable to revenue of about 12 lakhs. From these, we can perceive that they are under-estimating the revenues and over-budgetting in expenditure, so that when they come before the House they can show us how precarious the condition of the finances of this presidency is and throw the House in a nervous mood and get it pass the money bills and allow additional taxation. Even this year, which was not so bad, they have been able to save 12 lakhs in expenditure and realise 6 lakhs more in revenue ; and thus to increase their balance by 18 lakhs. But we do not know how it is proposed to use those 18 lakhs for purposes of capital. For purposes of capital expenditure I think they should borrow. They should not pounce upon these revenues. They had done so in the year before the last. On page 29 we find that the expenditure on Lloyd Barrage was met from general balances, that is, they have taken away Rs. 123 lakhs from the general balances which came from the general taxation and they have spent it on the Lloyd Barrage.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: But you get interest for that.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Supposing that the Lloyd Barrage comes to grief, they will write off this amount. It will be the same to Government. One department of Government will go to the aid of the other department and the result will be that the general taxpayer will lose to the extent of Rs. 123 lakhs. That is to say, we do not want these balances to be utilised in order to make an appearance of showing Lloyd Barrage project as a productive proposition. If you finance it from the balances, if you pay Rs. 10 lakhs every year for 20 years and in this way you want to make it appear productive, and you want to show to the House that it will be a productive proposition, then I strongly protest against this sum being used from the expected surplus of last year. Now, this method of course should be strongly protested against. I also protest against the way in which they are utilising the balances. Now at the same time I want to point out that the Finance Member has said in his speech that owing to the excessive damage caused by frost these anticipations may not be realised. The honourable the Finance Member says that Government have taken prompt steps in issuing orders for giving relief to the cultivators where it is needed by way of tagavi loans, suspension of land revenue, etc. He ought to have put down the remission of land revenue, but he has only used the word "suspension." Now, the losses have been so heavy that fields after fields have been wholly damaged by frost and the cultivators have been reduced to the most abject state. At the same time I have to point out to the Honourable the Finance Member that the Revenue Department,—of course the officers of the Revenue Department,—are over-zealous and in one taluka,—North Daskroi,—before the frost, caused the havoc, that is, before 26-27 January the over-zealous

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Mamlatdar of North Daskroi by threats exacted both the instalments, that is to say, people were made to pay both the instalments, namely, January and March instalments. Excessive zeal on the part of the revenue officers should not be encouraged by the Government. Otherwise the people will go to the depth of misery from which it will not be possible for us to lift them. I hope that even in such talukas where on account of over-zealousness of the revenue officers much more than what is due has been recovered from the cultivators, in such talukas also where it has been proved that there is loss to the crops of the cultivators, consideration should be shown to the cultivators who actually borrow from their creditors and pay on account of the revenue officers issuing notices or taking coercive measures. It is very unfortunate that Gujarat has been twice hit during the course of these two years. It was very heavily hit during the floods. At that time, of course, Government came to the aid of the people and more or less their ordinary routine of work has been again begun. But this current year has unfortunately turned out to be most unpropitious in the case of the cultivators. If there is a famine from the very beginning the cultivators do not sow their fields and they do not lose anything in the way of seeds and labour charges. This time they have sown their fields and they have lost their seeds and practically they are borrowing and borrowing on the crops which are standing on their fields, because these cultivators who are ever-lasting debtors have to borrow even on the credit of the standing crops. When these standing crops are destroyed their credit is dislocated and it will be a very serious problem how they will be able to pull on and meet the next season. Formerly in olden times this big famine fund was being kept in this presidency and even in the reforms period also this famine fund was put down at a figure of an annual assignment of Rs. 63 lakhs because this presidency with its large area was liable to more and more visitations of famine. It was for this reason that in the Devolution Rules that were framed under the Government of India Act the figure of Rs. 63 lakhs was put down as an assignment for famine insurance because this Presidency was in most parts famine-stricken and therefore I must appeal to the Government that it would be necessary for them to give relief to the cultivators at once in every way they can.

Rao Bahadur B. R. NAIK (Surat District): Mr. President, I, like some of the previous honourable speakers, am of the opinion that the budget presented by the honourable the Finance Member is disappointing. It might be that it is not his fault. He has inherited the legacy of his predecessors. Budget cannot be judged and should not be judged by surpluses or deficits. The revenue side of the budget is shown from the taxes collected from the people and the people who pay those taxes are entitled to receive services—and amenities of life from Government for the taxes paid. I would like to know from the Honourable the Finance Member whether he has been able to provide for any further services or amenities of life to the people in this budget. He has tried to show that the progress has been in the nation-building departments

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which are under the direct control of the Ministers, since the inauguration of the Reforms, and he has further tried to show that the progress has been continuous and is going on, with which, Sir, I cannot agree. It is true that a few lakhs has been added to the expenditure on Education during recent years, but I would like to know from him as well as from the Honourable the Minister for Education whether they are satisfied with the present state of affairs. The incidence of taxation in this presidency is Rs. 8 per head whereas annas ten are spent after Primary Education. The Finance Member says that about 10 lakhs of students take advantage of the primary schools at present. On an ordinary average of 15 children out of a population of 100 there ought to be 30,00,000. I maintain, Sir, that they have not yet done one-third of what they ought to have ordinarily done. Then again, the increase in expenditure on Primary Education to which he has made reference in his speech is the increase in the scale of teachers' pay and to some extent in the numbers of schools in some less unfortunate parts of the Presidency. But the Northern Division has not benefitted by this increase. As far as the Northern Division is concerned, the then Honourable Minister of Education, Dewan Bahadur Harilal Desai last year in answer to one of my questions informed us that not a single school has been added since the inauguration of the Reforms and not a single teacher has been added.

It is true that a few thousand more children go to school now. The number has increased because people have got the aptitude to send their children to schools ; but Government have been unable to provide the teachers for the increased number of children and also for their accommodation. So, the state of primary education is far from satisfactory. Government have passed an Act in 1923, which is known as the Primary Education Act. Government thereby tried to thrust the financial responsibility of primary education on the shoulders of local bodies, whereby the local bodies had to share one-third of the increased expenditure. And in spite of these difficulties, some of the local bodies have prepared schemes of primary education both on voluntary and compulsory basis, and sent the schemes to Government for approval. These schemes, to my knowledge, have been shelved and are lying idle in the portfolio of the Honourable Minister of Education. Government say they have got no finances and they cannot afford to give two-thirds, their share. Is it not true then that Government are breaking the laws which they themselves have made ? What would be the fate of individuals or associations if they broke the law ? There is a provision in the Act that as soon as a local body prepares and sends a scheme to Government, Government are bound to provide their share, which is two-thirds of the expenditure ; and yet Government say they have not got funds, therefore, they are not going to approve of the schemes and are not prepared to sanction the schemes. In spite of all this, the Honourable the Finance Member tries to show that this department has made great progress. This department, I am constrained to say, instead of making progress, has retarded progress.

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Another thing, Sir, is that the Honourable the Finance Member has taken some pride in some of the reforms or improvements in the method of agriculture. He has referred somewhere in the speech about hybrid cotton 1027 which is grown in the Surat District. He says thereby a premium of about Rs. 50 is being obtained over Broach per khandy. I admit that. It is not only a premium of Rs. 50, but of Rs. 80. But that is for all cotton grown in the Surat district. The rate of 1027 cotton is no doubt Rs. 10 to 15 per khandy more than the rates of other cotton grown in Surat. Then again, he ought also to have said what was the corresponding loss to the agriculturist in growing 1027 cotton. There is no monetary gain at all to him. If the prices of 1027 cotton are higher, the ginning percentage is much lower, that means less lint. Thus there is no advantage to the agriculturist at all because the gain in prices is counter-balanced by the loss in ginning. Whatever the Honourable the Finance Member may say from reports submitted by the Agricultural Department, if he actually makes enquiries, he will find that there has been a continuous decline in the production of 1027 cotton on account of the low ginning percentage. Then, again, he says some jowari improvements, some bajri improvements and some other improvements have been made by the department. But this is not sufficient. A few improvements made in the seeds of wheat or jowari or bajri would not improve the condition of the agriculturist at all. He ought to have said side by side how much yield in produce have been increased by the endeavours of the Agricultural Department. Does he know that rice, which is the staple crop of many districts in this presidency, gives the least yield. Out of the twelve principal rice-growing countries of the world India gives the least yield, except Siam. Again, in wheat India is the lowest in yield compared with any other countries in the world except one or two. And what about cotton? He can compare it with the yield of America and he will find that the yield of America is three times more than the yield of the Bombay Presidency. Then, as regards sugarcane producing countries of the world like Java and Cuba, he will find Cuba's yield is five times more than that of India, and Java's seven times more than that of India. Our exertions should be directed towards that aim, namely, increase in the yield of produce; not only improvement in the quality. I know quality is one of the principal factors; but quality is not the only factor.

Now, Sir, after all, the land revenue of the presidency is over Rs. 5 crores, and Government are spending Rs. 18 lakhs per year after agriculture, which comes to about $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. And I again repeat, Sir, that by sending a few cotton breeding experts or botanists here and there, conditions of agriculture will never improve. You must find out the root causes of the agriculturist's trouble, and that can only be done by overhauling the whole land revenue policy of this presidency.

The Honourable the Finance Member has said something about the Co-operative Department. Has it succeeded in removing the indebtedness of the agriculturists of the presidency? I say no. One of the foremost co-operators, the Chairman of the Provincial Co-operative

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Bank, has recently said somewhere that the agriculturists of the Bombay Presidency are almost all insolvents, and, therefore, they (the banks) have got large surpluses blocked up; they have to send their surpluses to other exchange and Indian banks for earning nominal interest; they cannot advance them to agriculturists. They are very heavily indebted. That is a problem which requires to be tackled by Government boldly. It is no use opening a farm at Sakrand or at Surat or at other places. The principal and the main point is the economic condition of the agriculturist. Unless and until you improve the condition of the agriculturist, all your efforts will be in vain.

Now, Sir, one word more. The Honourable the Finance Member said something about medical. Last year I told the Minister in charge of the Medical Department: What are you spending for medical? This benevolent Government is spending one-quarter of an anna per head for the benefit of the rural population of this presidency, and I say, Sir, is it not a disgrace for any civilised Government to spend one-quarter of an anna per head on medical relief? What about health? In epidemics like plague Government are not coming forward to help local bodies with substantial grants. I know in my district plague was raging last year to a great extent, and I, for the District Local Board, asked the Collector whether we could get some help from him to eradicate this disease. The Collector informed me that he could not do anything in the matter, that it was the duty of the local board, they could spend money after it. Now, Sir, we all know what the financial conditions of the local boards are. Is it not a fact that the highest pitch of taxation is reached in this presidency? would Government point out any other source of revenue which could be tapped by local boards? Now local boards have got nothing remaining for being tapped. Yet in diseases like plague or other epidemic diseases Government are not coming forward to give any help to the local boards.

Before I resume my seat, I will touch upon one important subject, namely, the severe damage done to crops by frost in the Surat district and also in other parts of Gujarat. Government may say that taking the annawari of the crops there is no case for remission. Government will take grass into annawari, also jowari and other crops will be taken into annawari, but let me most earnestly inform the Honourable the Revenue Member that whatever the Rules are, this is the proper time to suspend those rules or to amend them if necessary. You cannot take grass into annawari to determine whether there is a case for remission. The peasantry are paying land revenue and are therefore entitled to your help. They put all their available money and energy into growing crops and just when those crops are ready for reaping, an unforeseen calamity, certainly not Government-sent but God-sent, overtakes them and destroys those crops. In a moment like this, Government help is absolutely necessary. I am informed that the Honourable the Revenue Member has been good enough to order fresh annawari and has asked for reports. He will no doubt get reports in due course. But I may also inform him that the

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mamlatdars, mahalkaris, deputy and assistant collectors are making the annawari including grass. Now, those who know the condition of agriculture and agricultural population in the presidency will bear me out when I say that the people grow grass simply for the use of their own cattle, and that the price of grass has considerably fallen so that there is no market for surplus. They grow some jowari or bajri for their own maintenance, and mostly they grow money-crops like cotton. This cotton has been badly and severely damaged by the frost which we had some weeks ago. Therefore these people will have no money to pay Government revenue, much less to maintain themselves for the whole year round. Not only that, but on account of this damage, Government shall have to find good seeds for the next season because the cotton which is still existing will not produce any good seed for sowing purposes and I am afraid Government shall have to find a large quantity of seeds for agricultural operations next season.

Suspension of revenue is never cherished by the ryots even if it is given in whole because in the following year they have to pay double. If a suspension is given to the extent of 50 per cent. then in the following year they have to pay $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the assessment. So suspension is not liked by the people, and I therefore think that Government should try to find out the actual loss and actual damage and should give remissions to the people, and tagavi loans on long instalments without interest if possible. That much they can do if they cannot do anything more. I will make a very just and reasonable request namely, that the whole areas which have grown cotton or other crops which have been damaged by frost, must be examined on their own merits and they should get remissions. They should not say that the annawari of jowari is 8 annas and grass is 6 annas and so here is an addition of so much and it gives five annas. This is not the time for multiplication, addition or deductions. This is the time to act liberally, generously and promptly. There is disaffection no doubt and it is said by Government that this disaffection is being caused by irresponsible agitators. The ryots represent their first grievances to Government, but Government will not redress these. They are always slow to rise to the occasion and to give real and substantial help to the people and thus themselves are to blame for agitation and disaffection by ignoring ryots' first demands. I hope this time Government will be liberal and generous in giving remissions in proportion to the damage done by frost to the various areas in Gujarat. This is the time for prompt liberal action. (Bell rings).

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The House is now adjourned to 4-30 p.m.

(After Recess.)

Mr. N. E. NAVLE (Ahmednagar District): Sir, I am not one of those who would like to compliment the Honourable the Finance Member on the budget he has presented to this House, and I have a strong reason for that. I will first take the head of Land Revenue for my remarks.

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He has budgetted for a revenue of Rs. 5,12,00,000 for the next year from Land Revenue. I am sorry to say that in the remarks of the Honourable the Finance Member as well as in the speech of His Excellency yesterday no reference was made to the damage to the crops in the Deccan done by the frost or by the cold wave. They only referred to the damage that was done by the cold wave in Gujarat and in Sind, but no reference is made to the damage that was actually done by the cold wave in the Deccan. Take for example the district which I have the honour to represent, the Ahmednagar district. I had a long tour in my district, and I paid visits to several cultivated areas under the Pravara Right and Left Bank Canals and the Godavari Right and Left Bank Canals. I can say from what I have seen with my own eyes that the crops under these four canals were seriously undone. If you take into consideration the actual damage done by the cold wave to the crops under these four canals, you must estimate the actual damage at a crore of rupees in one district alone, namely, the district of Ahmednagar. Similar damage has been done in Nasik and some other districts, but no account has been taken of this damage, and why that has not been taken into account I am at a loss to see. When that is taken into consideration, I am sure the Honourable the Finance Member cannot expect to get Rs. 5,12,00,000 land revenue next year. And what is the remedy to cope with the calamity. Mere suspension of revenue will not do; you must remit the land revenue to a large extent in the Deccan. You must give remission to cultivators where they are hard hit. Suspending the land revenue for a year and collecting the same next year is really a hardship, as was remarked by the honourable member from Surat. I think the Honourable the Finance Member will not be able to collect, under Land Revenue, more than Rs. 4½ crores; that is my surmise. Therefore, what is presented to us as a balanced budget is not a balanced budget at all, but surely a deficit budget, when the actual figures for land revenue are considered in the light of the damage done to crops, in the whole of the Presidency.

Sir, another matter which I would like to consider is about education. This year the provincial contribution is stopped, and in that way we have been able to save on an average Rs. 40 lakhs. Also the new rules which the Secretary of State has been pleased to sanction about famine insurance will enable us to save a lot. Every year we were required to budget Rs. 63,60,000 for famine insurance, but this year we do not budget anything for famine insurance, and not only that but we have drawn Rs. 30 lakhs from that fund. In that way, we have been able to gain Rs. 93,60,000. Adding this to the amount of Rs. 40 lakhs by way of provincial contribution, which has been remitted, we are gaining more than a crore and a quarter. But where does this money go away? What are we going to do with this crore and a quarter? Although there is this saving, Government say that they cannot give any expansion to primary education, either on a compulsory or a voluntary basis. Various district local boards, at least the district local board of which I have the honour to be a member, namely the Ahmednagar district local board,

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sent its compulsory primary education scheme to Government 4 years back. But Government is sleeping over that scheme, and has not yet sanctioned it. That district local board was one of the foremost in this Presidency to levy an additional cess of one anna, and it was the foremost board to take control of primary education from Government. Government is therefore really stopping the progress of nation-building departments, especially education. If they are gaining a crore and a quarter in the way I have shown, why should they not provide at least a few lakhs of rupees for the expansion of primary education, at least on a voluntary basis? Instead of doing that, they say that they cannot give any help to the expansion of education at all. Not only that, but they say that they are going to increase the fees of school-going and college-going boys and girls. I do not know why in this way higher education is being denied to the boys and girls of the backward classes, because they are the only class of students which will be hard hit by the increase in fees in University and school education.

Sir, taking the administration of district local boards, we find a set-back in that matter also. I may take for example the Ahmednagar district local board. Government is not granting full autonomy at least in internal matters to district local boards which they once promised. The district local board of Ahmednagar, for reasons not known to us, is being deprived of the provincial roads and works that were given in the charge of that board some 4 or 5 years back. No intimation was given to the board, and it was deprived of provincial works and roads which were entrusted to it some years ago. No opportunity was afforded to the board for offering an explanation. We are not aware why this course was adopted by Government. Mind you, Sir, the board is one of the best boards, and the staff which it has engaged is the most efficient, as has been rightly pointed out by the local officers, namely, the Collector and the Executive Engineer of the Ahmednagar district. From time to time the board has been able to secure very good certificates from these officers attached to the yearly administration reports of the board. Still, the board, without being given any opportunity to explain anything, was deprived of these powers. In this way, the aspirations of the people for advancement in Local Self-Government are stifled down, and the district local boards are deprived of opportunities of showing good results. A word about the various commercial schemes undertaken by the Government of Bombay. The Honourable the Finance Member has rightly pointed out that in these various development schemes like the Salsette Railway scheme, the Ambarnath water supply scheme, the electric supply scheme and various other suburban schemes they have lost. From this we can draw one deduction namely, that the Bombay Government had undertaken various commercial schemes and gambled in them with the result that we are reduced to a state of bankruptcy. They gambled and we are paying for it by the curtailment of compulsory primary education. That is the net result of Government's gambling in those schemes. To remedy all these things I would suggest to the Honourable the Finance Member and the Honourable Minister for Agriculture that, because the provincial

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contribution is remitted now and because you are not to allot any amount to the Famine Insurance Fund—on the other hand you are drawing from it 30 lakhs—they should budget $1\frac{1}{2}$ crores, thus saved if not now, at least by way of supplementary budget for expansion of primary education. The state of affairs in the various districts is very acute. So far as Ahmednagar is concerned, we have levied the additional one anna cess. People have been petitioning the Board, the Collector and the Government and are threatening that they will resist the payment of the cess unless compulsory primary education is given for which the cess is being collected. The Ahmednagar district board made several representations to Government and they have turned a deaf ear to them. That should not be the policy of Government. If they cannot give full effect to the compulsory primary education scheme, they should at least do something for the expansion of primary education on a voluntary basis. If you do not do that, I do not think that the district board of Ahmednagar will be able to continue to collect the additional cess they have levied. I hope Government would take serious note of these things and try to give at least some relief by means of primary education on a voluntary basis, if not on a compulsory basis.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) (Addressed the House in Marathi): Sir, the budget for the year 1929-30 has been presented by the Honourable the Finance Member. I wish to offer a few remarks on it. If we look into the figures of expenditure on the agricultural and education departments, from the year 1921, we will surely come to the conclusion that the expenditure that has been incurred on these two most important departments is insufficient. The agriculturists are the back bone of the Presidency and they are the real source of income to Government. Government instead of spending money for their improvement by means of education and medical relief and instead of giving them additional facilities for agriculture by means of spending money on irrigation, they spend lots of money on Sukkur Barrage and so on. I have not the least objection so long as they spend it in order to improve the lot of agriculturists in Sind. But it does not mean that they should neglect the Deccan. Minor irrigation schemes are absolutely essential for cultivators in Deccan and the provision under this head in the next year's budget is less than for the previous year. Last year the Finance Member in charge said that it was necessary to provide more money for minor irrigation works, but nothing has been done so far, in spite of the fact that the Government derive a good portion of the revenue from the Deccan.

As regards primary education a much less provision has been made for the next year. As regards the Health Department, though there is a slight increase, it is not sufficient to meet the demand of the people. These two are the most important departments so far as the agriculturists are concerned. Government would do well to reduce the expenditure in the Abkari Department and utilize a greater amount for

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expenditure in these two departments. The primary school teachers have been complaining for a revision of their salary. The Sathe-Paranjpye scheme has not been given effect to. Although the resolution was brought in this very Council and it has been passed with great majority, still it has not been given effect to. Some members are thinking of bringing a motion for a vote of censure against the Minister of Education. It is necessary to improve the state of Agriculturists. The real way to improve their condition is to give them some capital without interest for some years and thus to encourage them to take interest in agriculture.

The honourable member says in his speech that it is necessary to pass the money Bill in this Session so that Government will get an additional revenue of 20 lakhs. If Government allows to make free the Kulkarni Vatan, they will get an additional revenue of 25 lakhs by doing so. The Watandar Patils have no sufficient pay according to their work, therefore their pay ought to be increased. The Government is on the point of forfeiting their vatans too. The example of this will be seen from the instance of the officiating Patil of the Poona City. All the Watandar Patils will in a body make a strong opposition to this action of the Government. Special licenses of arms should be given to those who apply for it. It is the duty of the Government not to take land tax this year from the agriculturists whose crops have been destroyed by untimely excessive cold. It is not proper for the Honourable the Finance Member to cut down 12 lakhs of rupees from the Famine Relief Work. But Famine Relief works ought to be carried on in my district such as the new bridge over Kukadi River near Pimpalwadi in Junner Taluka, District Poona, and a similar bridge over the River Bhima at Saruti Taluka, Indapur District, Poona. Physical and religious Education must be taught on a large scale.

To give effect to all this it is necessary to make the land a permanent Revenue Settlement and provincial autonomy must be given. To make the two sides of the annual Budget equal, the Finance Member has tried his best, but in future the Finance Member should try to retrench all the top-heavy departments so that he will not be obliged to bring forward such money Bills as the present ones and to levy more tax on the poor agriculturists.

Mr. V. A. SURVE (Ratnagiri District) (Addressed the House in Marathi): Sir, generally speaking nothing of note seems to have been included in the Budget of this year. An attempt—though an unjust one—to stop the progress of the Bombay Presidency which has once begun with the Reforms Act, has been continued for the last eight years. During this intervening period the Council refused to impose such taxes on the subjects with a view to removing this injustice. This being the case with regard to this matter, Government and the pro-Government people have passed censure upon it without any cause. Not caring for that censure an attempt made by this Council to compel Government

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to respect its opinion (i.e. to force the mouth open by closing the nose) seems to some extent to have borne some fruit this year.

The Provincial contributions (so far) to the Government of India have now been openly discontinued. And in spite of the bad economical condition of this presidency, the fixed contribution to the Famine Reserve Fund has been reduced. The Reserve Fund of two crores, has been reduced to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a crore and therefore no necessity is felt to set aside any amount for some years to make the Reserve. Scarcely any one would come forward to say that what has been done is just, but I feel certain that this Council cannot call this an act of justice. At any rate it can be said in mild language that this act constitutes a reluctant attempt at correcting a gross blunder. Who can say that adding 60 lakhs every year to the reserve of 2 crores was not an act of justice.

According to the rules of the (Famine Relief Code Fund) the Famine Reserve and the amount to be added to it every year used to remain constant under the rules. You say that this is not correct and that the Council has done nothing in that matter and the council has no right in the matter. This change has been effected by Government of its own accord.

I may tell the Honourable the Finance Member that he need not suppose that I agree to all the statements that he has made. All the people, know that it is impossible to administer any department without rules. It is not only to-day that I know that Government is well versed in the art of putting a rule into execution according to its own wishes after having told the subjects that rule is—whether it is made by the council or not—law. We must bear in mind that it is the council which has compelled Government to rectify this error by some means or other. However during the career of an Indian Finance Member, that is to say, during the regime of Sir Chunilal Mehta this matter was put to a severe test and he was convinced that the attitude of the council was correct. This is now quite clear. There is much to be learnt from all this and Sir Chunilal Mehta deserves praise for all that he has done in the matter.

The present Finance Member should earn the respect of the people by effecting many changes regarding the Budget while fully conscious of the responsibility he owes to the subjects and Government. I hope that the Honourable Mr. Pradhan will also earn the regard of the people.

Sir, at least this year the necessity of increasing the burden of taxes by the jugglery of figures cannot be impressed upon the council. The Bombay Presidency being deprived of the Income-tax the injustice which has been done to it is not redressed. And on that account the condition of starvation continues for the last nine years. This fact cannot be lost sight of. If even after the reforms having been introduced in the system of Government the condition of starvation continues, it cannot be overlooked. I am constrained to say this because there are people who are not awakened by experience.

[Mr. V. A. Surve]

Sir, Land Revenue is considered as the principal and stable part of the provincial income, but its stability is shaken and it is on the wane. No one pays attention to this. On the one hand it is seen that land assessment has been enhanced owing to the revision settlement taking place in many talukas every year. While on the other hand it seems that the land revenue has decreased by 40 lakhs during the last ten years. Consideration is given only to temporary situation (of the presidency) at the time of the budget, but it is impossible to be satisfied with it. I have been asking for the last two or three years for an explanation in the matter of conflicting state of things, but I regret to say that I have not been supplied with it.

The state of things that may be found at the root of all this is an essential matter from the point of view of peasants. I would say that this kind of indifference with regard to such an important matter is unpardonable.

The Council ought to consider as to how to reconcile these facts, namely that within ten years the land revenue has decreased by 10 per cent. and the excise income has increased by half a crore and the land revenue has decreased by a half a crore. Agricultural Exhibitions are held at several places but this point is lost sight of. Is this an effort at improving agriculture? I want to know what reply has the Honourable the Finance Member to this question.

I hope that this state of things will be explained this year at least, otherwise I shall have to do my duty as an agriculturist.

From the Government point of view it is ascertained from time to time that the situation is favourable for an increase in the revision settlement. This state of things is going on for the last several years. Then who is to find out the cause as to why the land revenue is on the wane.

The land is not capable of yielding sufficient produce, still land assessment is increased nearly to fill up a deficit found somewhere. In some other parts lands incapable of yielding sufficient produce are on the increase. I would like to know what other reference can be drawn from this. People are able to help to increase the excise income. It would be desirable to know the underlying meaning of the jugglery that may be played in this respect.

I do not think in the least that maintaining a big (cash) balance in the safe and asking for loans in the market for works of public utility and thus proposing to win the confidence of the people is a matter that is likely to reflect credit on the policy of Government.

The subjects will say of their own accord that that only is the true form of responsible Government in which the people confidently come forward to give loans when it is proved that the cash reserve is all spent over works of public utility and a loan is required for the same purpose.

[Mr. V. A. Suive]

Sir, His Excellency the Governor said in his yesterday's speech that henceforth it is necessary to increase the fees in the educational institutions.

Before this time also examination fees of the Marathi Seventh Standard were increased by one rupee. It is understood, that it is utilised for giving Government Scholarships to poor boys.

Who will bear the increase of school and examination fees. It will not be burdensome to those who receive fat salaries. But it will be unbearable to the poor and half-starved peasant class on whom is imposed 75 per cent. burden of carrying on the administration. It is quite essential that the council and the Honourable the Finance Member should pay heed to this matter.

It is quite evident that the guardians of the students are being distressed by the burden of fees and the struggle for existence and the teachers as a class being half-starved will remain dissatisfied. If the Sathe-Paranjpye scheme is put into effect and the burden of fees on the guardians is removed these two classes will be satisfied and education will spread in villages. The Primary Education Act will assume its full importance only if the above steps are taken by Government. I know that Government from time to time has been maintaining that it has no sufficient funds for education, still now the Finance Member should not be confused. At the time of preparing the Budget honourable members of the council should be consulted so that if the sums allotted in the Budget are insufficient for the administration of the Presidency, new taxes may be imposed on the public for works of public utility with the consent of the people and may be continued till the works are finished or may be discontinued when no longer required. I have advanced this suggestion many a time in the past. If you accept it your difficulties will be removed and you will not have to face public exposition.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I do not see any honourable members anxious to speak and do not know what the impression of the House is in regard to this matter. I know three days are allotted for the general discussion of the Budget, but that does not mean that it must necessarily continue for three days, it only means that it should not go beyond three days. If the honourable members are under the impression that the discussion should go on to the next day and the day after,—I do not know whether that is the idea—I do not think I need agree with them. However, I was just wondering about the point and had a talk with the Secretary who thinks that possibly some honourable members are under the impression that the discussion will go on to to-morrow and that therefore they are keeping themselves behind.

An honourable member from the left side of the House has just now enquired of me as to why none of the honourable members on the Government side were addressing the House. He reminded me that my two predecessors made it a point to enquire and get honourable members from the Government side to speak. I can only throw out a suggestion to the effect, but I cannot make any one speak. As a matter of fact, I understand that the procedure followed in Madras is quite different.

[The President]

Possibly, there the principle is that the general discussion is really meant for the representative side of the House and the Government members need only give replies or explanations in the end to points raised in the discussion ; and, therefore, they leave the Government members to rise one after the other, if any discussion has touched upon their departments and reply at the end of the whole debate. However, I am not ready to follow that procedure unless the House agrees and asks me to do so. We have yet more than half an hour to conclude the day's business, and I think some honourable member should come forward and address the House.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City): (Addressed the House in Urdu) Mr. President, before I speak on the budget itself, I should like to point out that the budget copies should be made available to us, the Sind Members, earlier than has been done. I got these two big volumes on the 14th at Karachi and I left Karachi for Bombay on the 15th instant and thus I have not had time to go through the budget properly. Though I am not prepared to criticise the budget, I have been compelled to say that my honourable friends who are English-knowing gentlemen should have taken this opportunity.

The Honourable the Finance Member says that he has made the two ends meet and has shown a balance of one lakh of rupees. He also says that all departments have been starved. I ask him which those departments are. In 1921-22 the expenditure on the General Administration was 123 lakhs whereas in 1929-30 we have budgetted for 224 lakhs, an increase of 82 per cent. in nine years. In the Education Department we had in 1921-22 an expenditure of 172 per cent.....

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: On a point of information, Sir, I wish the honourable member will please study the changes made in the accounts so that he may not commit any mistake. I collected all the different changes and put them into my speech. If he makes these deductions, he will find that the cost on the general administration has gone up mostly owing to these changes.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH: I have not understood what the Honourable the Finance Member has spoken in English.

On Medical, in 1921-22 the expenditure was 46 lakhs as against 54 lakhs proposed for the next year, showing an increase of 17 per cent. On the Public Health the expenditure of Rs. 29 lakhs in 1921-22 has crawled up to Rs. 34 lakhs in 1929-30.

Thus it will be seen that in a department affecting the health of the population and the education and prosperity of the people, there has been an increase of only 27 and 17 per cent. in nine years. It is clear from this that those who framed the budget have starved only the public welfare departments.

For Civil Works, No. 60, there is an item of Rs. 41 lakhs. Out of this Rs. 42 lakhs. Government is going to take over a school belonging to a

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society for European education for Rs. 8,39,000, because that Society is unable to manage its responsibilities without Government help. In Thar Parkar in Sind there is a Government High School which has been crying for Government assistance since the last eight years without getting a pie. It has a boarding house containing rooms measuring 12' x 12' in which there are four charpoys in each room, for eight boys to sleep on, but nothing has been yet done to give it monetary help. Will the Honourable the Education Minister or the Honourable the Finance Member do anything for that school.....

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Does the honourable member refer to the high school or the hostel in Thar Parkar ?

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH : I refer to both.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Money has been given to that institution.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH : I do not see it in the budget here but if funds have been allotted then I am much obliged to the Honourable the Education Minister. It was not shown under some works heads such as 41, Civil Works or 60, Civil Works. The provision may be hidden somewhere else.

I wish to bring it to the notice of Government that they are spending Rs. 2 crores out of total Revenue, of Rs. 16 crores, i.e. only 1/8th while other states and kingdoms are spending 1/4th to 3/8th of their resources.

It would have been more becoming for the Honourable the Finance Member if he had shown a deficit of Rs. 50 lakhs and provided for Education rather than showing a balanced budget after starving the one vital department for the nation's progress.

I now wish to say something about the Development Department. As has already been pointed out, the loss on the Back Bay reclamation is Rs. 3 crores, and Rs. 20 lakhs a year have to be spent to cover this loss, and they came to the conclusion that the loss would be Rs. 3 crores. But, in the opinion of the Honourable the Finance Member, this deficit or loss will be more than Rs. 3 crores for reasons which, though he has deliberately avoided to recount, I will however presently state. It has been said that after the material is filled, there is a certain amount of shrinkage, and more material has to be filled in. There was shrinkage of earth costing Rs. 12 lakhs this year and a like amount in the last year if I remember right. I wish to ask the Government whether this is really filling the Back Bay or sinking it in the pockets of the officers.

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : I protest against these remarks against these officers. The hon'ble member should either prove them as a gentleman outside the Council, or he should withdraw them.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT : I rise to a point of order whether the honourable member can interrupt an honourable member who is addressing the House in the way that he has done.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : He has simply raised a protest.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT : He can make that protest when he is replying.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : He has raised a protest against the remark that has been made, which is an insinuation that the sinking, as has been alleged, has not taken place, but the money has gone into the pockets of officials. The honourable member protests against that.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT : My point of order is whether such a protest can be raised in the way in which he has done it, or whether he should do it when he gets a chance to speak.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED : In all humility, let me submit to you, Sir, that some time ago you were pleased to say and also your predecessor was good enough to lay down that the Government Members should from time to time come forward and lay their views before the House regarding various things brought forward by the elected members of this House, and you also, Sir, wanted the honourable members of the Government benches to follow that practice if they could. Now here the honourable member who is an elected member of a responsible constituency gets up and makes a statement. Certainly, Sir, we are not here to be terrorised by any gentleman on the official side, howsoever high placed he may be. We look to you, as the custodian of the rights of this House, to put down this practice. This is not the first time we have been terrorised in this way. From time to time, some one or other on the Government benches gets up in the midst of another member's speech and talks in a terrorising manner, and when the Honourable Member in charge of Irrigation has taken up that attitude, most respectfully I beg to protest against that attitude.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I think all that is unnecessary. That was a protest made by one of the honourable members on the Government benches. The manner is his own. Why should the House be terrorised by it? The honourable member has perhaps spoken louder than he should, but that is his manner. He is not terrorising any members on the other side. There is no terrorising intended, and no terrorising would be allowed. There was a protest and the honourable member can meet that now.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH : I think the Honourable the General Member misunderstood what I said. I only asked a question, and he should give a reply.

The next point is that Rs. 16,90,000 are to be spent on the Back Bay reclamation next year. Out of that Rs. 5,75,000 are required for establishment. That means that 33 per cent. of the expenditure is for establishment. There are big merchants in Bombay undertaking construction works, and I do not think that they ever spend more than 3 per cent. to 4 per cent. on establishment. At any rate, 10 per cent. can be taken as the maximum to be spent on establishment. But Government have provided for the work, 1 Secretary on Rs. 36,000 per annum, 1 Deputy Secretary on Rs. 18,500 and 1 Assistant Secretary on Rs. 11,400. Then there is the Chief Engineer on Rs. 26,500 per annum, and there is a provision of Rs. 6,000 for another Deputy Chief Engineer for 3 months.

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This is surely scandalous to have a large staff for a work costing Rs. 16 lakhs. But it will be interesting to recollect the extent of the field of operations which is so limited that one officer inspects it from his window or standing at one place. Why should Government permit this sinful waste? We have before us the example of the Sukkur Barrage, where the work is spread over an area of nearly 12,000 square miles. The whole of the work of the Sukkur Barrage is in charge of one Chief Engineer, who is under the Public Works Department, Secretariat, *i.e.*, no other Secretary is found necessary for that huge undertaking. The point is that where money is being spent unnecessarily and extravagantly in this manner, the Honourable the Finance Member does not protest against it. Should he not forthwith abolish the Bombay Development Department Secretariat and place the limited remaining works under the Public Works Department?

I have not much to say regarding the housing scheme, about which my honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji has already said so much. It is stated that Rs. 6,55,000 is the rent that is to be recovered, but the cost of the collecting establishment is shown as Rs. 91,000. I do not think that any business man will spend such a large percentage on the establishment for collection of rents from his properties. At the most, he might spend 3 to 4 per cent. on it, but here it is 14 per cent. I really do not know whether the Honourable the Finance Member does not understand this, or whether he is helpless to reduce the expenditure on this item. But look at the efficiency in collecting rents. The Honourable the Finance Member informed us that about Rs. 2½ lakhs has to be written off as bad arrears. Now, Rs. 80,000 have been provided for repairs. But again here we see that Rs. 33,000 have been provided for establishment for doing those petty repairs. The establishment here is 40 per cent. Nobody pays any attention to this extravagant expenditure. There is no need for employing an engineer here. No new or ornamental work is to be constructed. One overseer ought to suffice to white-wash the newly constructed chawls. Now, I shall explain why so much expenditure is being incurred. There is an engineer imported there. In the Public Works Department he was getting Rs. 430, about two years ago, but he is now paid Rs. 1,200 in the Bombay Development Department. Is it to augment the losses on the schemes?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: I would ask the honourable member to name that man.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH: I do not know. I only want to point out that the man, had he remained in the Public Works Department, would not have got more than Rs. 500 at the most, but now he is getting Rs. 1,200. But is it not wonderful that the Honourable the General Member does not know names of officers himself? It is to be noted that the Audit Department objected to this big jump and waste and disallowed the increment, but the Public Works Department Secretary gallantly fought with the auditor and refixed the salary at Rs. 1,200.

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I next come to the Central Salsette Railway. I do not want to say very much regarding it, as my honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji has already made some remarks about it. The Railway cost the public Rs. 73 lakhs, but G. I. P. Railway is not willing to accept it gratis. The G. I. P. has taken it over on condition that they will keep the earnings but pointed out that the interest on the debt incurred on this project is to be paid out of ordinary revenues. Who were the officers advising and constructing the scheme? Whom have the Government blamed for such a huge loss?

As regards repairs to roads and buildings, *i.e.*, 41, Civil Works. Rs. 1,27,00,000 have been proposed to be spent. Out of this amount for works in Sind one lakh was provided for purchasing the Collector's bungalow at Karachi and Rs. 2,56,000 for other minor buildings, *i.e.*, only Rs. 3,56,000 in Sind. A large expenditure on repairs to roads has been budgetted, but nothing was to be spent on road construction in Sind, except Rs. one lakh in spite of the fact that Sind does not boast of many roads worth mentioning. Even there is not a pucca road between Karachi and Hyderabad. This is how an important province of Sind is neglected as regards communications. When I complained to the Honourable Minister he told me that road metal was not available in Sind. But there are hills all along between Karachi and Hyderabad. Besides N. W. Railway is rebuilding bridges. Why should we not make use of road metal from one of these hills for our future road between Karachi and Hyderabad?

Now I come to the Barrage. The Honourable the Finance Member informs us that Rs. 20,03,00,000 will be spent on the Barrage and the interest charges form a separate item. In 1923 when the scheme was sanctioned by the Council, the then Honourable Member in charge said that the expenditure would not exceed Rs. 15,99,64,177. He assured the Council that that was the final estimate and it would not be exceeded. Then again in 1923 Mr. Harrison assured that they the engineers had spent 20 years on the preparation of the project and it would not be exceeded. And Mr. Musto told us that there will be large savings on estimates of plant and machinery. But only a year after they prepared an estimate and the original amount of 16 crores was exceeded by 2 crores. But this year again the estimates are received and has mounted to 20 crores. In 1921 it was 16 crores, in 1925, it swelled to 18 crores and in 1929 it has come to 20 crores. What it will come to in 1930 and in future years remains to be seen. We do not know at least in this year's budget as to where this increase has been found necessary, whether it is on machinery, or the staff or the works. It was only last year this time that the late Honourable General Member had told us that there will be a further excess of Rs. 333½ lakhs over Rs. 18 crores, and he had pointed out that he would try to reduce this excess by savings of Rs. 165 lakhs in some works under the project. But to-day the Finance Member tells us that the net excess will be Rs. 2 crores. But if we take up the budget we find that no attempt has been made to revise the figures in the light of these excesses admitted by the Finance Member. There the figures of

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1925 are allowed to stand without any alteration. Why all the items were not revised ? We could then alone know where the excesses are occurring. But the expenditure is going on increasing every year. The Honourable the General Member stated and it is shown in the budget that he would recover the salvage value of machinery to the extent of a three-fourth crore of rupees.

But has not the experience of Bombay Development shown that it would be very difficult to obtain any appreciable amounts from the old plant. I can at this stage point out that this presumed credit against the cost of works will prove false one and at least half a crore should be added to Rs. 20 crores to arrive at the official revised cost of work this year.

Sir, when the Barrage original estimates were framed and put before the Council in 1923, it was shown by Government as a bait to the public that the scheme will earn Rs. 2 crores as net profits after paying fully not only for all arrears of interest but the capital cost also in 23 years from its inception, *i.e.*, in 1946 and that the public would get a net revenue of 2 crores. You have already spent 10 crores and we have to spend 10 crores more according to the revised estimates. The original estimates have already been exceeded by 4 crores on works alone. The excess on interest is besides this and the Honourable the Finance Member tells us that he will prepare a programme of Barrage debt repayment from 1935-36 in 60 years. That is he has given us a warning that there is going to be a dead loss on this scheme also, besides Development and that instead of Rs. 2 crores net profit, we should be prepared to bear that burden also. The extent of the burden is not yet disclosed and this leaves Government a margin to put it at any figure.

The public is paying from 1923, for famine fund Rs. 10 lakhs every year for interest in capital invested, and this year Rs. 11.79 lakhs for famine fund and Rs. 10 lakhs from ordinary Revenue. How much more we shall pay in future. But we are paying as loss Rs. 54 lakhs on Development and we might have to pay a like amount for Barrage.

The costs are increasing and the revenue will be less than forecasted owing to bad changes in construction.

Will not Government and the Finance Member appoint a Committee of financial experts and Engineers to investigate and advise them regarding how to cut down losses.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : As regards the election of members from this House to the University, it would not be taken up to-morrow, because there are certain matters in connection with that about which I should like to be assured before I proceed with it.

There is only one thing more which I should like to mention, and that is the question of appointing a House Committee which is very necessary under our present changed circumstances. There are only a limited number of rooms as accommodation for such of those who wish to take advantage of them, and I think almost all of them have been occupied.

[The President]

I should like the Committee to come into existence in this session, particularly to study all questions in connection with that, because by the time the House adjourns I would like to bring to the notice of the Public Works Department what further accommodation is necessary or what alterations should be made in the present arrangements. That would be the immediate concern of the committee I have in view. It will also see to the comforts of the members as far as refreshment rooms and other things are concerned. I shall be able to lay before the House to-morrow as one of the items the names of members whom I wish to take an interest in the matter. The election matter will have to be postponed to the day after to-morrow. The general discussion of the Budget will be continued to-morrow as usual.

The House is adjourned to 1 p.m. to-morrow, Wednesday, the 20th February 1929.

Y. H. P.

P. H. Y.

Wednesday, the 20th February 1929

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, on Wednesday, the 20th February 1929, at 1 p.m., the Honourable the President, Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI, Bar-at-Law, presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Khan Sahab
 ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
 AHMAD, the Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 AMIN, Mr. H. J.
 ASAVALE, Mr. R. S.
 BALAK RAM, Mr.
 BHOSLE, Mr. M. G.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 BRANDER, Mr. J. P.
 BROWNE, Mr. D. R. H.
 CHANDRACHUD, Mr. N. B.
 DABHOLKAR, Sir VASANTRAO
 DAWOODKHAN SHALEBHOY, Mr.
 DESAI, Mr. B. T.
 DESAI, Rao Sahab D. P.
 DESAI, the Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D.
 DESAI, Mr. J. B.
 DESHPANDE, Mr. L. M.
 DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
 DOW, Mr. H.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Sir
 GILDER, Dr. M. D.
 GINWALLA, Mr. F. J.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH, Mr.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HOTSON, the Hon'ble Mr. J. E. B.
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM, Mr.
 JANVEKAR, Mr. D. A.
 JITEKAR, Mr. HAJI IBRAHIM HAJI MAHOMED
 JOG, Mr. V. N.
 JONES, Major W. ELLIS
 JOSHI, Mr. S. C.
 KALE, Rao Bahadur R. R.

KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KNIGHT, Mr. H. F.
 LAIRD-MACGREGOR, Mr. E. G.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY ABDULLABHOY
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 MACKIE, Mr. A. W. W.
 MACLACHLAN, Mr. D.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MARTIN, Mr. J. R.
 MARZBAN, Mr. P. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUNSHI, Mr. K. M.
 NAIK, Rao Bahadur B. R.
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OLIVEIRA, Mr. F.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PATEL, Mr. J. R.
 PATIL, Rao Saheb D. R.
 PETCH, Mr. F. W.
 PRADHAN, the Honourable Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 RAJMAL LAKHICHAND, Mr.
 RIEU, the Honourable Mr. J. L.
 SAKARLAL BALABHAI, Mr.
 SHAIKH ABDUL AZIZ ABDUL LATIF, Mr.
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHETH, Mr. A. D.
 SHROFF, Mr. CHHOTALAL R.
 SMART, Mr. W. W.
 SMYTH, Mr. J. W.
 SOLANKI, Dr. PURUSHOTTAMRAI G.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 SYED MIRAN MUHAMMAD SHAH
 SYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
 SYED MUNAWAR, Mr.
 THORAT, SARDAR S. B.
 THORNBEE, Mr. J. P.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VANDEKAR, Rao Saheb R. V.
 WASIE, Mr. G. A. D.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WINTERBOTHAM, Mr. G. L.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, Order, Questions.

PRIMARY TEACHERS' PAY : DISTRICT LOCAL BOARD SCHEMES.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of district local boards that have taken primary education under their control, have formed schemes regarding the primary teachers' pay and sent them to Government for approval ;

(b) the number of them that have received the necessary sanction ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) Twenty-two district local boards have taken over control of primary education. Ten have so far submitted schemes regarding the pay of primary teachers.

(b) One.

ENGINEERING COLLEGE, POONA : ADMISSION.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of new students admitted to the Engineering College, Poona ;

(b) the number of Backward class students out of them ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) and (b) The number of new students admitted to the college in the current academic year is sixty. Out of these 15 are students of the Backward classes.

SUB-DIVISIONS OF INAM LANDS.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of sub-divisions of inam lands according to phalni numbers and exclusive of survey numbers which are not divided into pot or phalni numbers, entered in the Record of Rights in all the three Divisions for the years mentioned by the Honourable the Mover of the Small Holdings Bill in his speech on the last reading ;

(b) whether it is a fact that these sub-divisions of inams are doubly recorded firstly on the number of sub-sharers in the inam land and secondly on the number of the sub-sharers of the tenants ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) As the information required by the Honourable Member could be obtained with an expenditure of time and labour out of proportion to the utility that it is likely to serve, Government regret that they are not prepared to direct its compilation.

I find on further examination that the printed reply to (b) is only partially correct. It is correct so far as inam lands in Government villages are concerned. But as regards inam lands in alienated villages sub-divisions would be doubly recorded. For example, in the case of a co-sharer in inam land his sub-division would be recorded in his name and if that sub-division were again sub-divided and such sub-divisions held by two different occupants, the latter would appear again in the inamdar's name and also in the name of the occupant concerned. To that extent the sub-divisions would be doubly recorded.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : My whole question relates to Inam lands. May I know if the answer is given without making enquiry from the subordinates ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : No, that is not correct, but I would draw attention to the fact that the honourable member's question was not as clearly worded as might have been desired.

ANCIENT MONUMENTS : TARADEVI TEMPLE.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT (Surat City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the fact that a temple of Taradevi—popularly called Tarinidevi—on the Taranga Hill is supposed to be a Budhistic relic ;

(b) if the reply to the above be in the affirmative, whether this temple has been included for preservation under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act ;

(c) if not, the reasons for not making this Act applicable to it ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : (a), (b) and (c) The sacred shrine dedicated to Devi Taran Mata stands on the hill of Taringa in the State of Timba in Zilla Gadwada within the jurisdiction of the Mahi Kantha Agency. The Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, which is applicable only to British India, cannot therefore be applied to this monument.

MEDICAL SERVICES : RESERVATION OF POSTS FOR EUROPEANS.

Dr. M. D. GILDER (Bombay City North) : Will the Honourable the Minister of Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the communiqué of the Government of India reserving certain posts in this Presidency exclusively for European Officers of the Indian Medical Service ;

(b) whether the Government of Bombay (Transferred Departments) have protested against these orders ;

(c) whether he is aware of the views expressed in this Honourable House during the Budget Debates of 1926, when the Honourable Member representing Bombay City South (Mr. Nariman) moved a Rs. 1,000 cut to draw attention to a circular of the Government of India to the same effect (*vide* Council Proceedings, Volume XVII, pages 771-793) ;

(d) if the reply to (b) be in the negative, whether the Government intend to protest ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) Yes.

(b), (c) and (d) As stated already in the reply to the question of the Honourable Member at page 708 of the Bombay Legislative Council Proceedings, Volume XXI, Part XI, 1927, Government forwarded to the Government of India a copy of the debate on the question of the reservation of posts for European officers of the Indian Medical Service before the Government of India press communiqué was issued. In view of this, no further action on the part of the local Government seems necessary.

DEATH OF MENGHWAR WOMAN, KHARIRA.

MR. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a Menghwar woman committed suicide some time ago in the village of Kharira in Nagar Parkar Taluka and was buried by her relations in the presence of Mashirs after reporting the fact to the police;

(b) whether it is a fact that on 24th September 1928, the grave was dug under the orders of the police in the presence of the Mukhtiarkar and the Sub-Assistant Surgeon of Nagar Parkar and the Sub-Inspector of Police;

(c) whether it is a fact that the medical opinion was that the woman had committed suicide and that she had not been murdered;

(d) whether it is a fact that some of the officials went back to their duties but some of the police remained at the village and assaulted and harassed the Menghwars;

(e) on what date the Menghwar woman had died and had been originally buried;

(f) on whose report the police re-opened the matter and had the remains disinterred?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: (a) It is uncertain whether the woman committed suicide or was murdered. It is however significant that the panchayat fined the husband of the girl Rs. 600. It is not known whether she was buried in the presence of Mashirs or not, or whether the death was reported to the Police before or after burial. It is however certain that the report to the Police was greatly delayed.

(b) Yes.

(c) No; the medical officer stated that the body was so decomposed that it was not possible to give any opinion.

(d) The medical officer returned to his duties the same day and the Magistrate left the village the following day. The Sub-Inspector of Police stayed to examine the persons concerned. There is no evidence to show that any one was assaulted.

(e) She is stated to have died on the evening of the 8th March and to have been buried on the evening of the 9th or the morning of the 10th.

(f) On the orders of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate.

MR. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: The reply to part (a) of my question is that it is not known whether she was buried in the presence of Mashirs or not. How is it that the police are not able to give any information to Government?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: The police got information but it was so conflicting that it was impossible to ascertain what the truth was.

MR. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: And the police did not also know whether the death was reported before or after the burial?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: If you will look to the answer to (a), you will see that it is not known when the burial took place.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : The answer to part (d) of my question is that the Sub-Inspector of Police stayed to examine the persons concerned. How long did he stay ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : As long as it was necessary, I suppose. I have no information.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : If Government have no information on the point, how do they say that the sub-inspector stayed as long as it was necessary ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : As long as he considered necessary for his investigation.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : What was the subject of the examination of these witnesses.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : The subject is apparent from the whole question.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : I find that it is uncertain whether the death was a murder or suicide. What was the result of the enquiry by the police ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : Exactly the same as I have mentioned. The information was so conflicting that it was impossible to be sure what the truth was.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : My question alleged that the police officials harassed the Menghwars and I understand that Government admit that there was harassment.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : Most certainly not.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : But it has not been denied.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I now deny it.

JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER'S COURT, SIND : MINISTERIAL STAFF.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Civil Justice Committee reported in 1925 that the subordinate staff of the Court of the Judicial Commissioner of Sind was badly paid and of poor quality and stated that they could not too strongly emphasise the necessity for the reorganisation of the ministerial staff of the Court ;

(b) whether it is a fact that subsequent to the above report, a Committee appointed by the Government of Bombay also made certain recommendations regarding the reorganisation of the Ministerial staff ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have not yet carried out those recommendations ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Retrenchment Officer appointed by Government some time ago also went into the question of the salaries of the clerical staff of the above Court ; if so, what his recommendations as to the pay of such staff were ;

(e) whether Government intend to carry out the recommendations of the Reorganisation Committee referred to in part (b) of the question ;

(f) whether Government will place on the Council table copies of the reports of the Reorganisation Committee and the Retrenchment Officer?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes. The Retrenchment Officer was of opinion that the rates of pay for the clerical staff were inadequate and he recommended that they should be assimilated to those in the office of the Commissioner in Sind.

(e) The recommendations of the Reorganisation Committee are under the consideration of Government.

(f) Not at the present stage, at any rate.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : What is the objection to the publication of the report of the Committee?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : Very largely because it has not yet been decided what action is to be taken on the report.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Is it not a fact that Government sometimes publish reports of Committees before they come to any conclusions as to the recommendations?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I am not prepared to deny that.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : What is the objection in this particular case to the publication of the report?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I will tell the honourable member. One of the reasons is that the phraseology of some of the recommendations in the document is such that if we published it we might be liable to the charge of defamation of some of the persons concerned.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : What is the objection to the publication of the report of the Retrenchment Officer?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I have already told the honourable House that it is still under the consideration of Government and that it is preferable not to publish it at least until a decision has been arrived at.

PENSIONS : BALANCES AND PAYMENTS TO HEIRS.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of unspent balance in the Pension Fund at the end of the year 1927-28 ;

(b) the use to which Government propose to put this unspent balance ;

(c) the number of cases in each of the last ten years in which the pension due was paid to the heirs of a Government servant and the total amount so given in each year ;

(d) the number of cases in each of the last ten years in which Government servants died but no pension was paid to their heirs ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : (a) There is no Pension Fund. (b). (c) and (d) Do not arise.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Is it not a fact that a certain amount is budgetted for pensions which are expected to become due ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Yes.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : And is it not a fact that every year certain sums remain unpaid because some pensions do not become due ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Yes.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Is it possible for Government to give us the total of this unspent amount ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : No ; it is not possible because since the last two or three years commuted pensions are paid out of the capital fund and then that is repaid in 15 instalments by way of capital and interest, as the honourable member will find from the Blue Book.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Under what head are the pension contributions contributed by the local bodies, municipalities and local boards, towards pension fund credited,—pension contributions already made?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : I want notice of that question.

JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER'S COURT : MINISTERIAL AND SUBORDINATE STAFF.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to the fact that the Civil Justice Committee of 1924-25 reported as under in connection with the Judicial Commissioner's Court in Sind :—

“ We cannot too strongly emphasise the necessity of reorganization of the ministerial staff and the reconsideration of the requirements as to qualification and of the pay of such officers as the Commissioner to take accounts, the Nazir and the official receiver ” and “ subordinate staff of the Court is badly paid and of poor quality ; ”

(b) whether it is a fact that Government had appointed a Committee to report on the reorganization of the ministerial and subordinate staff ;

(c) whether they will place on the Council table a copy of the Committee's report ;

(d) the date on which the Committee's report reached Government ;

(e) what steps have been taken by Government to carry out the recommendations of the Committee ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c), (d) and (e) The Committee's report reached Government on 2nd July 1927. It is still under consideration.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : How long does Government still expect to take in considering this report ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: I think that before the Chief Court is instituted the necessary orders will be issued, but that they will probably be delayed until shortly before the Chief Court actually comes into existence.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: Is it a fact that the recommendations of the Civil Justice Committee had no reference to the Chief Court but had reference only to the Judicial Commissioner's Court in Sind.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: Yes; that is quite the case. But it is thought better to bring all the changes into operation at the same time; and, as the honourable member is aware, financial considerations step in and make it difficult for us to make as many improvements as we should wish to do.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: Under the recommendations of this Committee, what is the total income which Government expect to gain and what is the total expenditure which the recommendations involve?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: I am afraid I have not got those figures here.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: Will they be available in the course of the session?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: I will see if I can get them, yes.

BARRAGE LANDS: PROPOSALS OF INDIAN COTTON COMMITTEE.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Cotton Committee have made some suggestions as to the agricultural development of the Barrage tract and the disposal of Government land on the Barrage;

(b) whether Government will place on the Council table a copy of those proposals?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a) Yes.

(b) The Honourable Member is referred to paragraph 111 of the Report of the Indian Cotton Committee, 1919, a copy of which is available in the Council library.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: Have Government received any further communication from the Indian Cotton Committee or what is now called the Central Cotton Committee with regard to this particular matter, subsequent to this report?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: I am afraid I must ask for notice of that question.

FALLOW FORFEITED LANDS, SIND: RESTORATION.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the area of land fallow forfeited by Hindus and Muslims (separately) in each taluka and district of Sind and the whole of Sind (separately) from 1918-19 to 1925-26;

(b) the area of fallow forfeited restored to Hindus and Muslims separately in each taluka and district of Sind and the whole of Sind (separately) from 1918-19 to 1925-26 ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : The information required by the honourable member could only be obtained with an expenditure of time and labour out of proportion to the utility that it is likely to serve. Government regret, therefore, that they are not prepared to order its compilation.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Is it a fact that these figures are available in every taluka office, and probably number not more than a few hundreds ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : The figures are available and so they can be obtained ; but they can only be obtained by a considerable labour and expenditure of time.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : If each taluka office has to spend only a few hours on it, have Government any objection to get these figures ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : That may be the case ; but all the same, the aggregate expenditure of time and labour would be very great indeed ; and I would also bring to the honourable member's notice that he sent in a very large number of questions all bearing more or less on the same subject, and if we were to attempt to reply to all his questions, the time occupied in each individual office will be very great indeed.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Are Government aware that there is a certain legislation relating to sale of land pending before the Government and this information is necessary with a view to understand exactly the consequences of that legislation ? I have no objection to summarising the questions, if that suits the Government.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I am aware there is such legislation under consideration.

FALLOW FORFEITED LANDS, SIND.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to place on the Council table a statement showing (a) the net area of land fallow forfeited by Hindus and Muslims (separately) in the latest year for which figures are available in each taluka where the fallow rules were in force ; (b) the proportion which such fallow forfeited land bore to the total holding of the members of each community ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : The information required by the honourable member could only be obtained with an expenditure of time and labour out of proportion to the utility that it is likely to serve. Government regret, therefore, that they are not prepared to order its compilation.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Is it not a fact that in this particular question I have sought information only with regard to one particular year, which reduces the difficulty of Government practically

to a minimum? Have Government objection to giving figures even for any particular year?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: The reply states that the collection of this information would require a great deal of labour and time, and I do not think there would be sufficient justification for this expenditure of labour and time.

LAND HOLDINGS, SIND: RESTRICTED TENURE.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind): Will Government be pleased to state the percentage of the following sizes of holdings in each district and the whole of Sind which is under restricted tenure—

- (a) under 5 acres,
- (b) above 5 and up to 15 acres,
- (c) above 15 and up to 25 acres,
- (d) above 25 and up to 100 acres,
- (e) above 100 and up to 500 acres,
- (f) above 500 acres?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: As the time, labour and expenditure involved in the collection of the information would be disproportionate to the public advantage likely to be derived therefrom Government regret that they cannot undertake to compile it.

CHIEF COURT, SIND: ESTABLISHMENT.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind): Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) what the additional cost involved in the establishment of a Chief Court in Sind is;
- (b) whether Government propose to provide for the establishment of such court in the next year's budget?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: (a) The estimated cost is Rs. 56,698 per annum.

- (b) No provision has been made owing to the financial situation.

GOVERNMENT SERVANTS: CONCESSIONS ON RETIREMENT.

Mr. HAJI IBRAHIM HAJI MAHOMED JITEKAR (Southern Division): Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether they give any concession at the time of retirement or at any time to a Government servant in superior service who has served continuously for more than 30 years without any leave;
- (b) if so, what such concessions are;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: (a) No.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) Government do not consider that a Government servant should be encouraged to complete his service for pension without taking any leave since a reasonable amount of leave is necessary, in their opinion, if his efficiency is to be maintained.

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : Is Government going to force a man who is not going to take leave, to take it ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : No ; Government is not forcing anybody to take leave. But the question is, if a man does not go on leave during all his service, whether any additional bonus or advantage will be given to him when he retires ? Government say, no, that is not the policy.

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : In the reply it is stated that a reasonable amount of leave is necessary for efficiency of work. Then, supposing a man is not going to take any leave, is Government going to force him to take it ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Government does not force anybody to take leave. When that provision for leave was made, Government thought that, according to the constitution of a human being, that kind of rest was necessary. But they do not force anybody to take leave. But if he does not take leave, because he did not take any leave, that will not give him any chance of having any bonus or any additional advantage.

PUBLIC SERVICE : EMPLOYMENT OF MUHAMMADANS.

Mr. HAJI IBRAHIM HAJI MAHAMAD JITEKAR (Bombay City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Muhammadan and non-Muhammadan clerks in the several departments of the Secretariat ;

(b) the number of these clerks who are in the Lower and Upper Division ;

(c) the number of these employed by them since 1920 and the number of applications for appointments received from the Muhammadans and non-Muhammadans both for Lower and Upper Division during that period ;

(d) whether they are aware that the Hindu superiors of the Muhammadans in Government subordinate service deliberately try to curb the spirit of the Muhammadans under them, whenever they find an excuse to do so and that they are overbearing and arrogant in their attitude towards them and that it is this fact which accounts for the general apathy of the Muhammadan graduates to join the subordinate service ;

(e) whether they are aware that no benefit has been derived by Muhammadans from Finance Department Order No. 2610, dated the 25th February 1926, both in the matter of employment and promotion ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : (a) 11 Muhammadans, 430 non-Muhammadans.

(b) Upper Division—2 Muhammadans.

Lower Division—9 Muhammadans.

(c) All except three in the Lower Division.

Applications of candidates who are not employed in the Department concerned are ordinarily destroyed after they have ceased to be useful for the future.

(d) No.

(e) No. The order mentioned is being observed whenever qualified Muhammadan candidates are available.

MR. HOUSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA : Is not a register maintained of the applicants ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : No register is maintained of applicants.

MR. NOOR MAHOMED : Is the maintenance of a register a useful thing ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : We do not consider it useful, because if there is only one vacancy, there are 500 applications.

NAVALGUND MUNICIPALITY NOMINATIONS.

MR. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many elected and nominated councillors there are in the Navalgund Municipality, Dharwar District ;

(b) whether Government Order No. 7622 of the 24th June 1921, states that there should be only one salaried servant of Government who may be nominated among the three nominated ;

(c) whether one salaried Government servant was nominated for the trienniums of 1922-25 and 1925-28 ;

(d) whether it is a fact that for the triennium of 1928-30, two salaried servants of Government, viz., the Mamlatdar and the Doctor, have been nominated ;

(e) why Government have departed from the rule and principle laid down in the Government Order mentioned in (b) above ;

(f) whether this departure has resulted in depriving the minor communities such as Marathas, shephards, Marwarees from being represented on this Municipality ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) 12 elected and 3 nominated.

(b), (c), (d) Yes.

(e)—(f) Government have asked the Commissioner to nominate a non-official in the place of the Medical Officer.

MR. V. N. JOG : Is the non-official member nominated ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : I do not know that myself ; but we have asked the Commissioner to nominate one.

CO-OPERATIVE CONFERENCE RESOLUTION AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to the reply given by the Deputy Director of Agriculture to a resolution passed by the

Maharashtra Co-operative Conference held in Nagar in 1927 and published at page 20 of the Sahakarimitra for April 1928 ;

(b) to explain the said action of the Deputy Director ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) Yes.

(b) The Deputy Director explains that only such improved agricultural practices and methods as have proved successful at the experimental stations and demonstration farms are demonstrated on the cultivators' fields. The cultivators are benefited thereby. Loss only ensues when the cultivators fail to follow the advice given by the Agricultural Department. There is no need to make good the loss that may result to them. Government agree with the Agricultural Department that no guarantee can be given for losses incurred in such circumstances.

LLOYD BARRAGE.

Mr. MIR MAHOMED BALOCH SHAIKH (Karachi City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of contracts for constructional works and the value of each that have been placed with local engineering firms direct by the Lloyd Barrage during the last three years ;

(b) whether tenders were publicly invited for those works or advertised in leading papers in India. If not, why not ; if yes, in what papers ;

(c) whether the inspection of some of the works was entrusted to the Indian Stores Department ; .

(d) if so, why the purchase was not also entrusted to them ;

(e) how much time was allowed for the receipt of tenders after the invitation :

(f) the value of the contracts placed direct by the Lloyd Barrage with local engineering firms for which inspection was entrusted to the Indian Stores Department ;

(g) whether tenders were invited for those works separately through the medium of the papers in India ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : (a) Contracts for constructional works (*i.e.*, stores, etc., particularly plant and machinery of the individual value of Rs. 10,000 and over) placed with local engineering firms direct (*i.e.*, by the officers of the Lloyd Barrage and Canals Construction Project without the intervention of the Indian Stores Department, Simla) during the three years from 1924-1925 to 1926-1927 and their values are as under :—

			Rs.
(i)	Three Motor launches	..	44,000
(ii)	Three Pontoons	..	91,000
(iii)	660 feet of Armco Culverts	..	12,705
(iv)	Iron work for buildings (beams and joists)	..	12,004

(b) (i) Tenders were advertised for two motor launches in the *Times of India* and the *Daily Gazette*. The third launch was purchased a year later and as it was exactly similar to the first two, the invitation of tenders was considered unnecessary.

(ii) Tenders were not invited as the pontoons were exactly similar to the six already supplied by the firm.

(iii) They were purchased from Messrs. William Jacks and Company who are the sole agents in India.

(iv) Quotations were invited from local firms before the order was placed.

(c) Inspection of the pontoons was entrusted to the Indian Stores Department.

(d) The purchase of the pontoons was not entrusted to them as they were exactly similar to those previously supplied by the firm and no advantage would have been gained by placing the order through the Indian Stores Department.

(e) Seventeen days in the case (b) (i) above.

(f) Rs. 91,000.

(g) No. Please see reply to (b) above.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH: With regard to the purchase of motor launches, why was not a tender called for?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: Because it was a standard design and there was no necessity of a tender.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH: Buildings too are built to standard designs, but tenders are called for?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: There was no necessity of a tender in this case.

BLIND RELIEF FUND: GULAM KADER, THAR PARKAR (SIND).

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Henderson the Collector of Thar Parkar called a meeting during the course of the criminal case of Gulam Kader to collect subscriptions for the Blind Relief Fund Association;

(b) whether it is a fact that Gulam Kader promised to pay Rs. 1,400 in the same meeting towards the Blind Relief Fund;

(c) whether it is a fact that the case was withdrawn against Gulam Kader?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: The attention of the honourable member is invited to clauses (b) and (c) of the reply given to him at the September-October 1927 session which has been printed at pages 696-697 of Part XI of Volume XXI of the Bombay Legislative Council Debates.

BLIND FUND: INTEREST AND DIVIDENDS FROM MIRPURKHAS
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY BANK, LIMITED.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of the Blind Fund has issued notices and distributed them through Mukhtiarkars and Government officers asking people to pay up the interest and dividends received from the shares of the Mirpurkhas Co-operative Society Bank, Limited, towards the Blind Fund;

(b) whether they propose to take any action in the matter?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

BLIND FUND : SETH SAKOOMAL'S MOTOR CAR.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Seth Sakoomal of Mirpurkhas has given a second hand motor car towards the Blind Fund ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the same car was put to raffle ;

(c) what was the amount received from the raffle for the car ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the winner sold the car for Rs. 400 four hundred only ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the tickets were distributed to Mukhtiar-kars who disposed of them to Zamindars and others ;

(f) what action Government have taken or intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Rs. 1,849-6-0.

(d) Government have no information on the point.

(e) The raffle was started and conducted and the tickets were distributed by Seth Sakoomal personally. The services of Government officers were not enlisted for the purpose.

(f) Does not arise.

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : How is it that when once the motor car was handed over to the Blind Relief Association, he started the raffle ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I do not see the difficulty of the honourable member. Why should he not start a raffle himself ? I ask the honourable member again why should he not ?

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : When he gave the motor car to the association, what right did he have to start a raffle for the same motor car ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : That is entirely a question between the Association and the Sheth, with which Government are not in the least concerned.

GRANT TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS, KARACHI.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that on the bills for the grant-in-aid the secretary or manager of the aided schools has to endorse a certificate that the bill does not exceed a certain proportion of expenditure of that school during the previous year ;

(b) if the reply to (a) is in the affirmative, whether such certificates were signed in the cases of the Model High School and the Gujarati Middle School, Karachi, in connection with the last year's grant in respect of which the Honourable the Minister of Education was pleased to give certain information in reply to a question put by me at the

Legislative Council meeting held on the 7th October 1927 (*vide* pages 438-440 of Part VII of Volume XXI of the Bombay Legislative Council Debates) ;

(c) if the reply to (b) is in the affirmative how could they ascertain the proportion of the expenditure, as the schools were not in existence the year preceding the grant ;

(d) the reasons for showing such special treatment to these schools ;

(e) the proportion of students belonging to (A) Hindu, (B) Mussalmans, (C) Other religions in—

(i) Karachi Academy,

(ii) Model High School, and

(iii) Gujarati middle school ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD ; (a), (b) and (c) Attention is invited to the replies given to clauses (a), (b) and (c) of a question on the same subject, printed at page 179 of Part II, Volume XXIII of the Bombay Legislative Council Debates.

(d) The two schools have been treated on their merits.

(e) The information as collected in August last is tabulated below :—

No.	School.	Total number of pupils in the school.	Percentage of		
			Muslims.	Hindus.	Other communities.
1	Karachi Academy ..	245	85.3	13.0	1.6
2	Model High School, Karachi ..	642	.3	98.4	1.2
3	Gujarati Middle School, Karachi	342	4.7	78.1	17.2

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH : With regard to (c), when the school was not in existence in 1926 a certificate of expenses was given in 1927 for the year 1926 ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : If the honourable member had read the reply carefully, he would not have asked this supplementary question. It is true that the school was not in existence in 1926, but it is in the power of Government to arrive at an estimate and fix the grant.

DISTRICT LOCAL BOARD ELECTION : MAMLATDAR OF SATARA.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the mamlatdar of Satara was the returning officer at Satara for the recent district local board elections ;

(b) whether he visited several polling stations on the day of the elections accompanied by one of the candidates in the candidate's motor car ;

(c) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the note and the query made regarding this matter in the newspaper 'Aikya' of Satara dated 18th February 1928 ;

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, two stations. As Returning Officer he was required to Supervise arrangements at the polling stations and as the distances between stations rendered it impossible to use his own tonga and as all cars plying for hire on that day were engaged, he approached Mr. Adhav, one of the candidates, to take him in his car as the other candidate had refused to accommodate him in his car.

(c) Yes.

(d) Government consider that the action of the Mamlatdar was injudicious. He has been informed accordingly. Government do not consider that any other action is necessary.

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : The cars were engaged by whom ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : By the candidates, apparently.

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : Are they allowed to so engage them ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : They may be private cars.

Sardar G. N. MAJUMDAR : What is the name of that mamlatdar ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : I require notice of that question.

INAM VILLAGES OF GAVTHA AND MURAMBI.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether by his decisions dated 20th January 1863 and 10th January 1863 respectively the Inam Commissioner, Northern Division, has ordered Rs. 10 and Rs. 12-8-0 to be credited permanently to the Government treasury on account of Hakdari and Mokasa from each of the Inam villages of Gavtha and Murambi, taluka Peth, district Nasik ;

(b) whether the same fixed amounts are still annually credited to the Government Treasury on account of the same items ;

(c) if so, on what grounds those two villages have been classified as Sharakati Dumala by Government ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) In his decisions Nos. 154 and 155 (in regard to the villages of Murambi and Gavtha respectively) dated 20th January 1863 the Inam Commissioner, Northern Division, decreed that the villages of Murambi and Gavtha should be continued in inam subject to the annual payment to Government of a fixed sum of Rs. 45 (Rs. 22½ for each village) on account of the "Hakdari Bab" (Rs. 10) and "Mokasa Amal" (Rs. 12½) and the rights of Hakdars in the villages.

(b) The fixed amount of Rs. 45 for these two villages is being received annually by Government.

(c) The two villages were classed as "sharakati" even before 1859. They were shown as "sharakati" in the Dumlazada of 1859 and are described as sharakati even in the Inam Commissioner's decisions referred to above, as Government hold in these villages the Mokasa Amal representing a percentage of the revenues of the villages.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR : Is it not a fact that in reply to my letter to Government in 1924, Government stated that wherever Government dues are fixed and not changeable according to percentage, those villages are not to be classed as "Sharakati" ones ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I must ask for notice of that question.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR : Is not the case of these two villages similar to the inam village of Akolner in the Ahmednagar district ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I must again ask for notice.

BORSAD MUNICIPALITY : NANAMIYAN IMAMMIYAN.

Mr. J. R. PATEL (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) why they have nominated Mr. Nanamiyan Imammiyan, a member of the Borsad Municipality ;

(b) whether they are aware that his nephew was already on the said Board ;

(c) whether they are aware of the fact that two other Muhammadan localities had remained unrepresented on the board ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) He was considered suitable for nomination.

(b) No.

(c) No. There is only one electoral ward for Muhammadans and three seats are allotted to it without reference to any particular locality.

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : Is the fact of a nephew being on the board a bar for the uncle to be nominated to the same board ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : That is a question which the honourable member has to ask the honourable member who has put the question, not to me.

SCHOOL CHILDREN : CONTRIBUTIONS TO WAR LOAN.

Mr. J. R. PATEL (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that small sums were collected from school children as contributions to the war loan by the teachers of the primary schools in the presidency and whether such collections were invested in postal cash certificates ;

(b) whether on the expiry of the five years' period, such certificates were renewed or the amounts covered by them were realised in cash ;

(c) the amount thus realised in each taluka of the Kaira district ;

(d) whether it is a fact that such collections were deposited in the taluka sub-treasuries ;

(e) whether any and what rate of interest is allowed on such deposits ;

(f) the total amount thus due as interest up to now on the sum deposited in each taluka ;

(g) if the answer to (e) be in the negative why the collections were not again invested in cash certificates or in any other security carrying interest ;

(h) whether the several school teachers or the parents or guardians of the school children or anybody on their behalf were consulted as to how their contributions were to be disposed of at the end of the five-year period ;

(i) whether separate accounts are kept in the sub-treasuries or anywhere else of the amount due to each school at present ; if so, what the total amount thus due is ;

(j) whether Government have formulated any scheme as to how the sum is to be spent ;

(k) if not, whether they propose to formulate such a scheme and announce it to the public ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) Yes.

(b) The certificates were cashed at the end of the five years except in the case of Sind where the amounts have been invested in 1929-47 War Bonds.

(c) The amounts realised in the different talukas of the Kaira District were as follows :—

Taluka.				Amount.
				Rs.
Thasra	..	.	..	420
Kapadvanj	..	..	..	300
Anand	..	..	..	1,017
Matar	..	.	..	360
Borsad	..	..	..	1,070
Nadiad	..	.	..	630
Mehmedabad	..	..	..	230
Total ..				4,027

(d) No.

(e) and (f) Do not arise in view of the answer to part (d).

(g) The amounts realised from cash certificates were reinvested in Government Securities, or deposited in the Post Office Savings Bank and other registered Banks all of which allow interest.

(h) No.

(i) Separate accounts have not been kept in the large majority of cases and Government do not therefore consider that any useful purpose would be served by collecting the information regarding the amount due to each school in the few cases in which separate accounts have been kept.

(j) Yes. The Honourable Member's attention is invited to the Government Press Note, Educational Department, No. 3022, dated the 15th June 1921, a copy of which will be found in the Reading Room.

(k) Does not arise.

BHURI TANK : GORWADA VILLAGE.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM on behalf of Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI (Surat District): Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) the area of the Bhuri tank in the village of Gorwada in the Taluka of Bulsar in the Surat District ;
- (b) the area of the land assessed to it for Himayat ;
- (c) the Himayat assessment on the tank ;
- (d) whether the embankment of the tank is in good condition ;
- (e) the number of pipes on the tank and the condition in which each is at present ;
- (f) whether the tank is at present deep enough ;
- (g) when the tank was last repaired, what repairs were done to it at the time and what the amount spent on those repairs was ;
- (h) what the condition of the tank is at present ;
- (i) whether complaints have been received from the people about this tank ;
- (j) whether Government have decided to put this tank in a good state of repair ;
- (k) if so, when they will repair the tank and what repairs will be done and what amount will be spent on these repairs ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: (a) 8 acres and 10 gunthas.

(b) 30 acres and 25 gunthas.

(c) Rs. 70-8-3.

(d) Yes.

(e) There are three outlets to the tank and they are all in working order.

(f) The tank holds at present sufficient water for irrigation purposes and does not require deepening.

(g) The tank was last repaired in the year 1925-26. The repairs which cost Rs. 960 consisted of strengthening the bund and putting right the outlets and waste-weir.

(h) The tank is at present in a fairly good condition and fulfils its functions.

(i) Yes. Only one complaint has been received.

(j) and (k) As the tank is in a fairly good condition, it does not require any repairs at present.

DHANDHUKA-DHOLERA ROADS : EXTENSION TO DHOLERA.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Dhandhuka-Dholera road terminates at a distance of one furlong from Dholera ;

(b) whether the people of Dholera have applied to Government to extend the said road as far as the dispensary of Dholera ;

(c) whether the village panchayat of Dholera has also applied to the Public Works Department to extend the road as far as the dispensary of the village ;

(d) whether the talukdars of Dholera have objected to the extension of the road as far as the village dispensary ;

(e) whether Government are aware that formerly the municipality of Dholera and now the village panchayat of Dholera are keeping the said portion of the road under repairs and that the talukdars have never spent anything for its repair ;

(f) if so, why Government are delaying the extension of the road: as far as the dispensary ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) Yes, at the tank outside the town of Dholera.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) The Sir Panchayat of Dholera are now keeping the portion of the road within their limits in proper order. It is not known if the talukdars have spent anything on this road.

(f) The extension of the road to the dispensary has been delayed pending the decision on a dispute between the people of Dholera and the talukdars regarding their proprietary rights over the road.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : When will the dispute between the people and talukdars of Dholera be decided ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : I am unable to say. That is a question to be settled between the parties. If they go to court, the court will decide it. If they are going to settle the dispute among themselves whenever they have time to do so, they will do it, but I cannot say anything definitely.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : Before whom is the dispute pending, before the Government or a court or anybody else ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : I do not know before what forum it is pending.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : Then how does Government know that a dispute is pending ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : The reply states that the dispute is pending, but whether it has gone to a court or not is not known to us.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Do Government know that there is litigation in this matter ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : I am not aware of that.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : What is the knowledge of Government in regard to this dispute ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : There has been litigation before between talukdars and Government in the past and talukdars advanced certain rights which Government denied. Thereafter the municipality was abolished and a panchayat has been established there. The talukdars have been alleging certain rights to certain roads and that matter has not yet been settled.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Are not Government aware that according to section 37 of the Land Revenue Code, the proprietary rights over public roads vest in the Collector and not the talukdar, in talukdari villages ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : It is a matter of the construction of the section of the Land Revenue Code.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Are public roads the private property of talukdars ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : That is a matter on which I am not prepared to express an opinion.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : After the decision about the Dholera talukdars, has this road been transferred from the Government to the talukdars ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : I would require notice of that question.

COUNTRY LIQUOR, AHMEDABAD : ADULTERATION.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether under paragraph 4 of the license for the retail vend of country spirits "country spirit shall not be adulterated or diluted with any substance nor shall it be subjected to any process whatsoever ;"

(b) if the reply to (a) is in the affirmative, whether they are aware that country liquor is adulterated by country liquor licensees in the City of Ahmedabad ;

(c) if so, what steps they have taken in the past, or take at present or intend to take in the future to stop such adulteration ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

COUNTRY LIQUOR : COMPLAINTS OF ADULTERATION.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there have been complaints against the adulteration of country liquor by the country liquor licensees in the city of Ahmedabad during the last five years (1923 to 1927) ;

(b) if so, who have made those complaints ;

(c) whether they had made any enquiries on those complaints ;

(d) whether any action was taken by them on those complaints ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) No.

(b), (c) and (d) Do not arise.

COUNTRY LIQUOR, AHMEDABAD : ADULTERATION.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether during the year 1924, adulteration of country liquor was being practised by the country liquor licensee Mr. E. R. Fanibanda in his country liquor shops ;

(b) whether they intended making an inquiry into the matter in his country liquor shop of "Chudiol" during June 1924 ;

(c) if so, whether in order to escape from the proposed inquiry a vat containing adulterated liquor was emptied ;

(d) whether in the attempt to ascertain by means of a lighted candle if the said vat was thoroughly emptied of its contents the spirit inside the vat exploded and set fire to the vat ;

(e) whether the vat damaged by fire was sent to the Ahmedabad Bonded Warehouse for repairs ;

(f) whether the cause of the damage to the vat was inquired into and ascertained by the local Excise Officers ;

(g) if so, what steps the local Excise Officers took to prevent the adulteration of country liquor during those days and thereafter ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) No.

(b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g) Do not arise.

EDUCATIONAL INSPECTOR, AHMEDABAD : MEMORANDA REGARDING TRANSFERS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Deputy Educational Inspector of Ahmedabad issued during the year 1926-27 memoranda to more than fifty teachers of Ahmedabad District, stating that if they did not leave their posts in or near their native place and go to places where they would get more attendance allowance and the benefit of postal service, they would be permanently debarred from such benefits or the benefit of service in their native places in future ;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what are the rules of the Educational Department under which those memoranda were issued by the Deputy Educational Inspector of Ahmedabad.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) A copy of the Circular issued by the Deputy Educational Inspector, Ahmedabad, is placed on the Council Table. It will be seen that the Circular contained a friendly warning in the interests of the teachers concerned.

(b) There are no rules regulating the issue of such Circulars.

Copy of the Circular issued by the Deputy Educational Inspector, Ahmedabad :—

"Report at once whether you are willing to be transferred to a place with higher Head Master's allowance than what you are getting now. The undersigned cannot promise to give you the benefit of your native place or transfer you to a place with postal allowance. Even if you are near your native place or at a place with postal allowance the undersigned cannot promise to see that you will enjoy these advantages if you are transferred to a place with higher Head Master's allowance. If you miss this opportunity, it is very likely you may be superseded and those who supersede you now may remain above you and you may not get as much pension as you could get if you now go to a higher place. Reply should be sent after full consideration."

RESTORED LANDS : SALE OF TREES.

SYED MIRAN MUHAMMAD SHAH (Hyderabad, Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Zamindar in Sind is given any share out of the sale of trees standing on the fallow forfeited survey numbers restored to him at the kacheris ;

(b) if the reply be in the affirmative, what proportion he gets ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a) No payment is demanded on account of trees standing in fallow forfeited survey numbers when they are restored to the original occupant.

(b) Does not arise.

ODHA RAILWAY STATION : PARCEL SHED.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that there is no parcel shed at the Odha Railway Station ;

(b) whether they are aware that a large traffic in vegetable takes place through this station throughout the year ;

(c) whether they are aware that parcels of vegetable remain at the station exposed to the rain and sun ;

(d) whether they are aware that great hardship is thereby caused to the villagers of the adjoining villages ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a), (b), (c) and (d) Yes. The Railway authorities realise that a parcel shed at Odha Station is necessary and propose to construct one. It will probably be completed during the current financial year.

BUNDING OFFICER, NORTH CENTRAL DIVISION.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state with reference to the reply to my question on "Rain scarcity in the Nasik District" on page 1289 of Volume XX of the Council Debates—

(a) whether they have now received resolutions passed at the conference of the Taluka Development Associations held at Nasik in May 1927 ;

(b) whether the Director of Agriculture has, in view of the resolution passed by the said conference, recommended to Government the new appointment of a bunding officer for the North Central Division ;

(c) what action Government propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given to clauses (b) and (c) of his question on the same subject printed at page 1320 of Volume XXII, Part XIX, of the Council Debates, 1928.

DANGI CATTLE : NASIK DISTRICT.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that the Dangi or Konkani breed of cattle is getting extinct in the Nasik District ;

(b) if so, whether they intend taking any, and if so, what steps to maintain and improve the breed ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) Government have no precise information on the point. The stock owned by the breeders is reported to have diminished to some extent.

(b) Government do not propose to take any action till the proposals of the recently formed Presidency Cattle Breeding and Dairy Farming Association are received.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT : RECRUITMENT OF NON-BRAHMINS.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state what steps they intend taking to give effect to the various Government Resolutions relating to appointments to scheduled posts and new recruitment from the non-Brahmin subordinates and candidates under the Poona Collectorate and in the Revenue Department elsewhere in the Central and Southern Divisions ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Effect is already being given to the various measures which Government have prescribed in the several Resolutions issued on this subject.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT : RECRUITMENT OF NON-BRAHMINS.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether they have issued any instructions to the authorities in the Revenue Department of the Central and Southern Divisions to appoint non-Brahmin officers and subordinates in the Chitnis, Prant and English offices with a view to secure an admixture of all castes ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : The orders of Government enjoin the due admixture of all castes and communities throughout the public service. No reference to specific posts has been made.

AYURVEDIC STUDIES : BENARES COLLEGE.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have under consideration the question of granting scholarships to selected students for the study of Ayurvedic medicines and of sending them to Benares College ;

(b) whether they have enquired of the Government of the United Provinces whether they would be prepared to receive students from this presidency at the Benares College if such scholarships are awarded ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) and (b) The attention of the Honourable member is invited to the reply given to a similar question by the Honourable member for the Ahmedabad District.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS, NASIK DISTRICT : ASSISTANTS.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that several undermanned Local Board primary schools in the Nasik district are in need of additional assistants ;

(b) whether they are aware that the local authority, Nasik District, has repeatedly represented the matter to Government without effect ;

(c) if so, whether they propose to take any action in the matter ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a), (b) and (c) In March 1927 the Nasik District Local Board Local Authority submitted to Government a scheme of expansion of primary education on a voluntary basis. The scheme consisted of a general programme extending over a period of ten years and a detailed programme for the first instalment. It was proposed to open 310 schools in all during the ten years, 270 of which were to be boys' schools and the remaining 40 for girls. For the first year the Local Authority proposed to open 40 new schools for boys and 4 new schools for girls and to appoint 56 additional assistants in the existing undermanned schools. These detailed proposals were examined by Government and sanction was accorded in December 1927 to the opening of the 44 new schools and to the appointment of 21 additional assistants, who were considered sufficient in accordance with the rules on the subject, as against 56 proposed by the Local Authority. No other detailed scheme has been received by Government from the Local Authority.

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : In the reply it is stated "sanction was accorded in December 1927 to the opening of the 44 new schools and to the appointment of 21 additional assistants." How is it possible for 21 teachers to look after 44 schools ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : The reply is there, and I have nothing more to add.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : Is it a fact that there are 44 schools and 21 teachers ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : These are additional assistants, as has already been pointed out.

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : Were there any teachers sanctioned for these schools before the 44 schools were opened ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : As I have already stated, these are additional teachers.

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : It is clearly stated that 44 new schools were sanctioned. Before the opening of the new schools, how is it possible that there should be any teachers for these schools ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Forty-four teachers were sanctioned already ; these are additional assistants.

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : Are there 21 teachers in 44 schools ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : It is 21 additional assistants.

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : Were there other teachers before ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Of course there were.

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : When there were no schools, what was the necessity of having these teachers ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : The masters were sanctioned with the schools.

COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, AHMEDNAGAR : MOSQUE GROUNDS.

Mr. G. A. D. WASIF (Central Division) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the main building of the Collector's office in Ahmednagar stands on a portion of the mosque grounds there ;

(b) whether it is contemplated to hand over the mosque to the Mahomedans there, and if so, when it will be handed over ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) Yes.

(b) The mosque will be handed over to the community when plans and estimates for a new building to accommodate the offices at present located therein have been sanctioned, funds have been allotted and the building is ready for occupation.

MOSSUM BRIDGE, MALEGAON.

Mr. G. A. D. WASIF (Central Division) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a notice board " Bridge unsafe " is posted at either end of the Mossum Bridge in Malegaon ;

(b) whether they intend taking in hand the reconstruction of the bridge ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) It is a fact that a notice board " Bridge unsafe, drive slowly " was posted at either end of the Mossum Bridge at Malegaon. This notice has, however, recently been changed to read as follows :—

" Bridge unsafe for axle loads above one ton. Speed not to exceed 8 miles per hour."

(b) No reconstruction of the bridge is contemplated just at present as there is no immediate danger. Plans and an estimate for strengthening the same are, however, being prepared.

APPRECIATIVE REFERENCE : RIGHT HON'BLE SRINIVASA SASTRI

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Sir, I feel the greatest pleasure in moving the resolution which I shall read out just now to the honourable House :

" This Council offers a cordial welcome to the Right Honourable Srinivasa Sastri, P. C., back to India, and expresses its keen appreciation of the invaluable services which he has rendered as India's ambassador to South Africa in promoting good feeling and understanding between the two countries, in helping to place the solution of the Indian problem in South Africa on a satisfactory basis and in making the culture and civilisation of India better understood and appreciated by the people of South Africa."

No long speech is necessary in order to commend this resolution to the acceptance of this House. Some three years ago bitter feeling had been aroused in this country against South Africa on account of the introduction of what was then known as the Class Areas Bill in the Parliament of

[Mr. R. G. Pradhan]

the South African Union. The feeling was so bitter that some people went to the length of suggesting that retaliatory measures should be adopted against South Africa. The Government of India then sent a deputation, presided over by an eminent European officer from the Madras Presidency, and then it was suggested that the South African Government should send a deputation to visit this country and see things on the spot. Later on, an arrangement was agreed to between the Government of India and the Government of South Africa that a deputation representing this country and the Government of India should visit South Africa and carry on negotiations with the Government of the South African Union on the controversial questions subsisting between South Africa and this country. That deputation, as honourable members are aware, was presided over by the Honourable Sir Habibullah, a Member of the Executive Council of the Government of India. That deputation was able to achieve considerable success, and an agreement called the Capetown Agreement was arrived at between the Government of India and the Government of the South African Union. One of the terms of that agreement was that if the Government of the Union of South Africa made representations to the Government of India to appoint an Agent of the Union in order to secure continuous and effective co-operation between the two Governments, the Government of India would be willing to consider such a request. In accordance with that arrangement the Right Honourable Srinivasa Sastri was appointed Agent of the Indian Government in South Africa and he took over charge in about September of the year 1927. The period of service of the Right Honourable Srinivasa Sastri has not been a long one ; but during that period he has been able to continue the work begun by the deputation that previously visited South Africa and thus strengthen the bonds of good feeling and good understanding between this country and South Africa. He has made the Government of South Africa and the European residents in that country to realise that the Indian problem had imperial aspects which it would not be wise to ignore. He has also made his own countrymen in South Africa to realise that their attainment of a higher and higher status in that country would be very much accelerated by their own efforts of self-improvement. In these ways he has brought about better feeling between the two countries. He has also made the Government and the people of South Africa realise that India has an ancient and glorious civilisation, and that the Indian people, in spite of the inferior national or international position which they unfortunately happen to occupy at the present moment, are worthy of respect and confidence of other civilised peoples of the world. In this way the Right Honourable Srinivasa Sastri has raised India in the estimation of South Africa and thereby done immense good to both the countries. Honourable members are all aware how eloquent tributes have been paid to him by the Prime Minister and other Ministers of the South African Government. I wish in conclusion to add one more remark and it is this. The other day the Right Honourable Srinivasa Sastri made an eloquent appeal to the wealthy citizens of this city and presidency that every two years or so

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some good and competent Indians should be sent to South Africa in order to maintain the good relations that have now sprung up between the two countries and continue the work of promoting better feeling between the people of the Union and the people of India. I sincerely echo that appeal and hope it will meet with a ready response. With these words I heartily commend the resolution to the acceptance of the Council.

Question proposed.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI (Indian Merchants' Chamber): Sir, I associate myself fully with the resolution moved by my honourable friend Mr. Pradhan. The services of the Right Honourable Srinivasa Sastri cannot be enumerated here when this resolution is moved; but it is a matter of great pride to the whole of India that the services he has rendered as our representative in South Africa have been acknowledged not only by non-officials but even by His Excellency the Viceroy. With these remarks I commend the resolution.

Mr. J. ADDYMAN (Bombay City): Sir, I desire to associate myself with the resolution and in doing so I would like to assure the House on behalf of the community I have the honour to represent how fully we appreciate the great work the Right Honourable Mr. Sastri has accomplished and how fully we realise, due to his efforts, a better feeling has been established between the Indians resident in South Africa and the people of South Africa.

We do fully appreciate what has been accomplished undoubtedly for the good of India, South Africa and the British Empire.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY ABDULLABHOY LALLJEE (Bombay City): Sir, I wish to associate myself with the remarks that have fallen from the previous speakers and wish to add that the South African question had been giving us a lot of anxiety for many years. We are all glad that the Right Honourable Sastri has been able to put matters right and we do hope that the good feeling which has now been created will continue to remain for ever in memory of his good acts.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE (Ahmednagar District): Sir, I am in full sympathy with the resolution. The Right Honourable Mr. Sastri was sent out as an ambassador from India to South Africa; and he has been successful in his mission. The present relations are a great improvement over what they were before. I support the resolution.

Khan Bahadur S. N. BHUTTO (Larkana District): I associate myself with the resolution on behalf of the Muslim community.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: Sir, I cordially support the resolution on behalf of Government.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I now put the resolution and hope that it will be carried with acclamation.

Question put and carried amidst acclamation.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Honourable members will remember that I said something about the House Committee yesterday evening before rising. I think it is an important matter as I told the

[The President]

House. Before I mention the honourable members whom I wish to work on the committee, I should like to learn their views before the Council session is over on a few matters which I place before them. That is in connection with the hostel arrangements on the premises. The first question that they have to consider is whether considering everything hostel arrangement is at all necessary ; I mean, whether such an accommodation is at all wanted, and if so, for how many honourable members on an average for each session ; and how many of them would like to live in Indian style and how many in European style and for that what changes they would like to propose in the present arrangements. The question of charges would of course be an important question, because any alteration or addition to the present arrangement would have to be considered by the Public Works Department and possibly would entail further expenditure. Therefore, the question of the charges both for lodging and boarding should also be considered by the committee. If the committee so desire they might also go into the question of the sufficiency or insufficiency of the present portion of the building which is reserved for hostel purposes, and if it is not sufficient, to consider whether there is any need of making any arrangements on the topmost floor of the main building. These are the main points I wish to lay before them with emphasis, but they may consider any other. Along with that they would also have to consider the accommodation and the facilities that the Library affords and see whether they are in consonance with our needs ; similarly the arrangements in the refreshment room and the lavatory, etc.

I have thought over the matter, and I think a representative committee like the one I appoint would meet the needs of the case : The Chief Secretary, the Secretary of the Public Works Department, Mr. Owen (who is living in one of the rooms), Mr. Jog (who is also there), Mr. Wasif (who is there), Mr. Pahalajani and Mr. Noor Mahomed from Sind, Mr. Amin and Khan Sahab Mansuri from Gujarat, Mr. Gunjal and Rao Bahadur Kale from the Deccan. The Secretary of the Council will help the committee.

(General discussion of the Budget resumed)

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED (Hyderabad District): Sir, the two principal needs of our province are, as you are well aware, water and education ; and it is from the point of view of these two principal needs that I will, with your permission, offer a few remarks on the budget that has been proposed this year. When the Simon Commission was coming, there was a question before the country regarding the separation of our province from this presidency. A lot of criticism was made against the separation on two grounds, namely, first, that our ignorance and illiteracy were appalling, our illiteracy was the humiliation of the province, and secondly that we, the representatives of Sind in this House, were completely at the mercy of the engineers of the Public Works Department and that our votes in this House were being manipulated by the Public Works Department, and that therefore we were absolutely unfit for

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autonomy. If we want separation,—Government never likes our separation—if we want to remain here nothing is done by the Government when preparing the budget to remove the causes that lead to the making of these very grave, and in some cases perfectly justifiable accusations. Some time ago criticism and allegations were made in another House that in India there was neither responsible Government nor responsible opposition. Commenting on it the *Pioneer* of Allahabad rightly said that it was meaningless to talk of responsible government or responsible opposition in India, and because even if an “irresponsible” extremist were placed on the Government benches he will be led to decide any case on the case file just in the same way as an “irresponsible” bureaucrat would do. Now, these two departments, namely, water and education, are at the present day in the hands of two honourable and honoured members of the Mussalman community, and, Sir, if I complain, I do so not in anger but in sorrow. Sind, our province, is divided by natural conditions into two portions, namely, the Upper Sindh and Lower Sindh. The upper portion is in the hands of God Almighty and Mr. Harrison, the Chief Engineer of the Lloyd Barrage. What its destiny will be, we at the present juncture cannot say; but that does not prevent me from saying that all credit is due to the engineers who are tackling a really difficult problem in Sind. The ultimate responsibility for higher taxation on lesser supply of water in the upper reaches of Sind will lie on those representatives of Sind who sanctioned the project in 1924 and who have bound their posterity to enhanced taxation with less water. But, Sir, with that question I am not concerned. I will only say that as a result of the sanctioning of the Barrage, Lower Sind is going to be devastated. The discussion of the proposals for the so-called improvements to the Fuleli Canal in the present budget in regard to this question is placed at the tail end and it will never be reached. The proposals are such that I say in all sincerity, in all conscience, and with all emphasis at my command that the Honourable Member in charge of Irrigation is going to devastate the lower part of Sind with his proposed “improvements.” One will naturally ask, Can an honourable member who comes from Sind and who has represented that constituency for nine long years in this Council, come forward and ask the sanction of this House for 50 or 70 lakhs of Government money for mere fun? I say that the ways of Government are inscrutable. The Sukkur Barrage is going to cost, according to the present revised estimates, 20 crores; but I submit as my personal opinion that it is going to cost more; the presidency should be prepared to pay 30 crores; the expenditure on the Barrage is bound to go up to 30 crores. Therefore, those honourable members who have gone there and seen the construction should not be led away by the sight of the launches and works that they had seen. We also saw plenty of launches on the Back Bay and I say in all conscience that when I saw that great ocular demonstration, as the late Irrigation Member used to say, I was also carried away by it. We also said: What a wonderful, what a gigantic work was being carried out on the Back Bay for the improvement of the City of Bombay?”

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I do hope the honourable House would not be led away into the belief that it is going to cost only 20 crores. It is going to cost at least 30 crores. I find some official members laughing. The criticism on the Back Bay was laughed out when the Back Bay bungle was before the House and in the same manner we were silenced by mere laughter as is being done to-day. Mere laughter has never succeeded in shutting out truths and it will never succeed. The Honourable the General Member, who belongs to Sind, will shortly come forward with a proposal to spend 50 lakhs for the improvements to the Fuleli Canal; but my contention, Sir, is that those "improvements" are going to result in the devastation of the Lower Sind. The Sukkur Barrage is such a great project that the Government will never do anything to jeopardise the scheme by allowing discontent to grow, at the present juncture of the Barrage. They will try to save the name and the reputation of the Public Works Department as well as of the Government regarding the Sukkur Barrage. If the proposed expenditure on the so-called improvements to the existing canals in the Lower Sind fails to do any good, Government will lose one crore and fifty lakhs, but they will have silenced people of Sind for the next ten years, during which the Barrage works and the disposal of Barrage lands would be allowed to go, according to Government desire. When the Sukkur Barrage was before this honourable House and there was great agitation in Sind against the construction of the Barrage, Government took special means to convince the zamindars that they need fear nothing from the construction of the Barrage, that the construction of the Barrage would give *greater* supply of water, *greater* prosperity to Lower Sind! They advanced two arguments in favour of the project.....

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: Will the honourable member say when Government gave that assurance as regards the prosperity of Lower Sind if the Barrage was constructed?

MR. NOOR MAHOMED: I am coming to that, Sir. Mr. Shoubridge was the Chief Engineer in Sind then and he was deputed by Government to hold a conference with the zamindars of Lower Sind who were agitating against the Barrage then and to convince them of the groundlessness of their apprehensions. Mr. Shoubridge, the spokesman of Government, advanced two propositions before the two meetings of the Lower Sind called by Government; one, that the river bed every year was rising, at and below Kotri and that therefore by the time the Barrage was complete, the river bed at Kotri would have risen so materially that the Fuleli and the Karachi tracts would get more water than ever before. That was assurance number one given by the Government spokesman, and later on repeated by Sir Chimanlal Setalvad the Government Member in this House. Another assurance given was, there were a great many canals which were taking off from the Indus below Sukkur; and after the construction of the Barrage all this freed water will go into the Hyderabad and the Karachi districts and therefore people will have *greater* water supply and greater prosperity. It was only in the last

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July sessions at Poona that we were for the first time told by Government that the river had was *not* rising and that there *was going to* be loss to the cultivator in the Fuleli. We were told for the first time that the rabi cultivation was not going to grow, on the Fuleli. Decrease of water on the Fuleli was never admitted before. We are told now that nature was now working against the Public Works Department. The zamindars of the Fuleli tract are a little shrewed people. They asked Government that in case the Sukkur Barrage caused loss to Lower Sind, what would be done for them? His Excellency the then Governor of Bombay, gave assurance to the zamindars that there would be no possible loss to zamindars and Government assured them that the zamindars of Lower Sind tracts would be given land in exchange. Now, Sir, the honourable member who presides over the destinies of water in Sind and who comes from our own province, in the note that he has prepared in the Blue Book with regard to Fuleli Canals, says that Government gave assurances that if there is "*material*" loss to the zamindars of Lower Sind, then Government will take steps to remove the causes of the loss. Now, Sir, have Government such a short memory that even in the bare space of 3 or 4 years they can change a solemnly given promise, very strong, emphatic language about compensation, to such a mild weak, meaningless language? Assurances were given that there would be no loss to the Lower Sind, and if there was loss Government would take steps to compensate the zamindars for the losses caused. The honourable the General member asks the honourable House to sanction 37 lakhs of rupees for remodelling, moduling and for improving the Fuleli canal; but in the midst of his own note in the Blue Book with regard to this item, he clearly says that his scheme will cost 50 lakhs. I do not know why that figure has not been clearly put down instead of 37 lakhs.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI: On a point of information, Sir, may I request the honourable member to join with other members in throwing out the demand and then put into action his speech?

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED: I think, Sir, that is a very sensible suggestion that my honourable friend has made, and if the Sindhis have any loyalty to their province, they should very seriously consider the proposition of the honourable member, Mr. Lalji Naranji. Any way, if we are to remain in the presidency, if we are to protect our posterity, if we are to protect our own interests, if we are to protect ourselves from devastation, I say in all sincerity that the Sind members should once for all decide whether our vote is going to be governed by the Public Works Department, by some friends in the Indian Civil Service, or it is to be governed by our own judgment. I know that we have weaknesses more than any one else, and if a friend becomes an enemy it is a most dangerous situation. In any case we should certainly seriously consider the laudable suggestion that my honourable friend, Mr. Lalji Naranji has put forward. Sir, the honourable the General Member in his budget note says that the Fuleli canal was originally only a kharif canal but that is a wrong history he has given. It was a

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perennial canal and the Lloyd Barrage is going for the first time to make it only an inundation canal. The history of the canal as given by the Honourable the General Member is absolutely wrong. At present and always, the Fuleli Canal has been supplying water throughout the year; but it will not do so after the Barrage begins to work.

The Honourable the General Member represented this constituency for nine years, and this honour has been so great that I do not think that I at least for myself will ever be able to repay the great honour this constituency has done us. But anyway, it is a wrong history that the Honourable Member for Irrigation has given with regard to Fuleli. The Fuleli Canal has been always a perennial canal, and it is the Public Works Department that is going to make it an inundation canal which will run only in the hot months, the summer months.

The Government now declare that greater area of kharif crops will grow on the Fuleli and only rabi crops will disappear. I am very glad that Government have made that partial admission. But there are so many crops of kharif, and I do not know whether Government are prepared to guarantee greater area of rice cultivation; and, Sir, Lower Sind soil can only mostly grow rice. My honourable and honoured friend from Sind, who is now at the topmost rung of Government ladder—we all look to him for guidance and support, legitimate support,—and I ask him, Sir, whether the scheme he has put forward in the present budget is going to guarantee us rice cultivation which we grow at present. I feel that Government are not very much in love with rice cultivation; they prefer wheat and cotton which bring better values. But unfortunately, we cannot grow cotton or wheat in Lower Sind, the soil being saltish. The Phuleli Canal is proposed to be divided into five compartments and each compartment works by *rotation alternatively*. You have been, Sir, in Sind for a very long time when perhaps all of us from Sindh were children. I ask him, Sir, whether Lower Sind can grow rice by our canals being divided into five sections and each section working in rotation alternatively? Will rice be grown by the central canal of the Barrage by rotations and five divisions? Then, Sir, if it is a wrong proposition, why should the project be placed before the House? This project will merely be a toy for the Lower Sind to play, in order that they may not cry for anything till Barrage problems are completed. Honourable members belonging to the presidency should not think that with the construction of the Barrage all will be well with Sind. I say all will be wrong so far as the lower portion of Sind is concerned. You have heard, Sir, in this honourable House the representatives of the Public Works Department say that the zamindars in the upper reaches take away all the water and, therefore, they, as the protectors of all the weak people, have to guard the interests of all the people. This is the argument they have always advanced, and the honourable members of the presidency have, on occasions, been so convinced of the truth of it that they have believed in the truth of it. But, Sir, if you see the figures they have themselves given in the Blue book, you will find that the upper reaches of the Fuleli have less cultivation than the lower reaches,

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the tail portion. If on any particular branch there is less cultivation at the tail it is due to the negligence of the Public Works Department, in allowing branches to silt up. What we want is that instead of wasting a crore and a half on useless projects, a bund on the Indus at Jherruk should be constructed. It is said the Council will not agree to give the money : but are Government agreeable to come before the Council ? Sir, the constitution of the Council is such that no non-official member can make a money demand from the honourable House. It is Government alone who can do that. When Government wants money bills to be passed, it is able to find support from the Council, but when they want money for the Jherruk, it is not able to get money from the Council ! It uses us for its needs and discards us when we ourselves want anything to be done for the public. I make that statement deliberately for the fullest use and consideration of the honourable members of the Government benches. Sir Chimanlal Setalvad made all sorts of promises in this honourable House, when he proposed the Sukkur Barrage and I assure you that when those promises were considered by the Fallow Rules Committee appointed by Government, they went unhonoured. The present Government have not carried out all that was promised by the former Government with regard to the sale of Barrage lands at concession rates ; and the fallow forfeited lands are being returned to the original holders on restricted terms and quite different from those contemplated by Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, the Government Member of the time.

Sir, as regards education, I will only say this, that the mullah schools, which are primary schools, are aided directly by Government and I am very sorry to say that the Honourable the Minister of Education has decreased the grant by 3 lakhs. How are these schools to progress ? We have no primary education at all, and, Sir, as regards grants to the Local Authorities, the total grant asked for this year is enhanced by Rs. 2,000 only ; except with this difference. All these things happen on account of the fact that Sind is being treated in a very step-motherly manner.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE (Satara District) : Sir, we are nearing the third triennial period of the constitution under which the reformed Government has been functioning, and the Honourable the Finance Member has thought it fit to review the work that has been accomplished during that period. I must give him credit for doing that, departing from the usual practice hitherto observed in that behalf. He has attempted to show that a certain amount of progress has been achieved and that no further progress could be achieved owing to paucity of funds. It is a sad irony of fate that the inauguration of the reforms should have synchronised with this financial stringency, which is going from bad to worse. But, Sir, is it not necessary, then, instead of merely bewailing year after year about this financial stringency and the sheer inability of the Government to do more than what they have done, to tackle the problem boldly and once for all and to find out a remedy by which funds can be made available ? I know it has been stated that the country

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has been already overtaxed. Of course, the resources from which money can come are either by way of fresh taxation or by retrenchment or by economy. The Honourable the Finance Member has referred to the two taxes which we are having from year to year. But they are just sufficient for the purpose of merely carrying on the administration. He has, I am sorry to say, refrained from showing any progress that has been achieved in the two other directions, namely, in the way of retrenchment and of economy. I think it was stated on the last budget occasion that the Honourable the Finance Member or the Finance Department will do well to place before this Council a statement showing the state of things which has resulted from retrenchment, retrenchment both at the top as well as in the staff.

We find, for instance, among the recommendations made by the Retrenchment Committee, some of which have been accepted by Government, that a certain policy can be pursued, but I am sorry to say that even there a kind of set-back has taken place. One of the recommendations in regard to the Forest Department was (page 24 of the statement of retrenchment furnished to this Council) the substitution of two junior provincial Forest Officers for two Imperial officers for the two divisions of Satara, Dharwar and Bijapur. Then in the column "Action taken by Government" it was stated that the Dharwar-Bijapur Division is already a minor charge. Satara has now been reduced to a minor charge and as a matter of fact it was placed under a junior provincial officer from before the end of 1927. I find that towards the end of last year, however this minor charge is again taken out from the provincial officer and placed in charge of an imperial officer. I want an explanation of this fact. If the policy of provincialisation, which was expected to effect economy, had been adopted from the very inception of the reforms, that might have resulted in a good deal of economy. It was stated that the rules under section 96-B of the Government of India Act were not made by the Secretary of State for India. I stated on the last occasion that it was the duty of this Government to press on the attention of the Secretary of State to make these rules as soon as possible, and I was told last year I think that such rules have been issued and the Government are now introducing this provincialisation. It seems to me that the crux of the whole scheme underlying the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms was to prepare the country for provincialisation, because soon after we have provincial autonomy, the question of the services will have to be tackled. If no effort is made from the beginning during this breathing time and this transitional period of nine years to reduce the number of all-India officers and substitute provincial men, then both from the point of economy and from the point of preparing the provinces for the exercise of benefits of full provincial autonomy, it seems to me the difficulty is not likely to disappear. We know the vested interests which existed in the year 1919 were guarded by the Government of India Act, but if new interests are to be guarded, they will begin to vest and vest and nobody knows how long it will be before they can be said to be no longer vested. I submit, Sir, that it was

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due to the Council to have a statement given to show how many posts have been converted into provincial posts so that some reduction in the cost of administration is made feasible. It behoves us, non-official members, merely to criticise these things, but it is up to the official members and the heads of departments, and therefore I say, if the Honourable the Finance Member, when he took pains to show progress made in every department by asking for information from each department, had at the same time asked for information in this behalf to show what economy has been effected, we would have been all pleased.

Similarly, as stated with regard to retrenchment, we find that whatever was being done in the way of retrenchment is being undone subsequently. There is no fixed policy as I find from the way in which things once retrenched have been replaced. I submit that for a sound policy to be enunciated once for all some definite principles ought to be laid down and they should not be departed from under any circumstances. If such a state of things is established, there will be some room for the honourable members of this House to consider whether really an attempt is being made to reduce the cost of the services. We all know that the utmost capacity of the taxpayer in this country has been reached and it would be very difficult indeed to come forward with fresh proposals of taxation. I find that is the difficulty of the Honourable the Finance Member and therefore he has not ventured nor has any other predecessor of his ventured to come forward with fresh proposals of taxation. The great expenditure on military and civil administration is the crucial thing which has to be considered and settled. Of course the military expenditure is not within the purview of the local Council, but it is a matter of certainly the greatest importance; but so far as civil expenditure is concerned, it seems to me that efforts should have been made from the point of view of saving a certain amount of money which could be relieved for the purposes of being made available towards reforms and progress in other directions. With these few observations with regard to economy and retrenchment, I shall now proceed to deal with the question of the so-called progress which is said to have been made since the inauguration of the reforms.

It will not be possible for me to deal with all the departments serially, but I shall only touch upon some of the departments which have been dealt with in the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member.

First of all, he has taken Agriculture. In this matter may I ask whether he has paid sufficient attention to ascertaining whether in spite of what has been done the condition of the agriculturist has made an improvement, I mean, whether the material wealth of the agriculturist has been increased both by the spread of the co-operative movement and the so-called improvement which is said to have taken place in agriculture. With regard to this improvement, it has been stated that there have been Demonstration Farms established. My submission is that it is not enough. No doubt a certain amount of research work has been carried on and there are also demonstration farms at Poona and Surat, but knowing as we do the agriculturist, we must take these

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demonstrations to his very doors just as we say that justice must be taken to the doors of the villager. The agriculturist is not expected to travel all the way from his village to Poona or Surat and then see at Munjri whether a particular crop experiment has proved successful and therefore he is expected to take a similar experiment in his own field. What I submit is that experiments and demonstrations must be carried, if not to every village, at least to every taluka. Unless that is done, it is not possible to expect the agriculturists to advance or to adopt any methods which may be profitable; conservative and illiterate as he is, it is not possible to expect him to do anything in the way of changing his old methods. It may be asked where are the funds? That is a question which I would not go into, but I can point out the Famine Funds, for instance, because this is a problem which must be tackled at any cost. It is no use saying you have no funds, you must tackle the problem of money in any way and find funds either by loan or out of the Famine Relief Fund.

The Honourable the Finance Member has stated that dry crop farming experiment has been tried. If there is really enough land where the earth is two feet deep, where dry farming can be carried on with success, if experiment has shown that this can be done, then there must be agricultural officers who must undertake to visit such areas, and this dry farming must be demonstrated in the areas themselves. I should think that a diversion of funds even from the Famine Fund for this purpose would be justified, because this is in a way prevention against famine as, if there is no rain, these dry crops at any rate can be expected to be grown. Therefore, if a part of the Famine Insurance Fund is utilised for such experiments, then it seems to me there may be some improvement on this head.

Another matter is about the conversion of the raw produce into some kind of finished article. These are no doubt small things. For instance, there are large tracts which grow tobacco, but it is in a raw form and it is exported. So also, large quantities of oilseeds are available, but they are all exported. Cannot the Department of Industries, the Department of Co-operative Credit and the Agricultural Department sit together and find out some means by which a beginning might be made to adopt some processes by which these *kutchra* articles can be turned into some finished products, so that the wealth of the agriculturist will be increased? He produces some kind of crop; all that is exported, and when we import it back in the shape of finished products, we pay perhaps ten to twenty times the original price of the stuff. My submission is that we must go on and find out such small industries which can be begun in rural areas. For that purpose, there should be, as I have stated on another occasion, a regular Agricultural or Rural Development Department.

The next department dealt with by the Honourable the Finance Member is the Co-operative Department, and with regard to that he has stated that co-operative credit societies have been largely increasing. But I must say that a mere extension of co-operative credit societies is hardly worth anything. There must be non-credit

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agricultural societies. There must be, for instance, land improvement and irrigation societies as in the Punjab. Mr. Rothfeld had once laid emphasis on the necessity of having non-credit agricultural societies. Unless and until we have such kind of societies, there is no hope of expecting more production and the results being more satisfactory. So far as co-operative credit societies are concerned, may I draw the attention of the Honourable Minister in charge to the fact that there is a large accumulation of arrears? What is the cause of that? That itself shows that the condition of the agriculturist has not materially improved, so that he is able to pay back and clear off his debt. Such causes as these must be investigated and remedies found out.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member's time is up.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE: If that is so, I must stop here. I only hope that work in the direction I have indicated will be undertaken. There are so many other matters, but I shall leave them for further discussion when each department comes to be criticised. But my submission is that, unless the material condition of the agriculturist is improved and there is a general increment in the wealth of the people, it is hopeless to expect him to bear any fresh taxation, or to expect any revised and enhanced land revenue to come with contentment from the people.

Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District): Sir, I congratulate the Honourable the Finance Member on being the second Indian in presenting the budget of this province and upon the confidence and trust which has been reposed in him by Government in entrusting him with such an important subject as finance. I feel greater pride in the fact that an honourable colleague, who was an affiliated member of the Swaraj Party of the second Council has control over the finances of the province. But I regret that the budget which he has presented is disappointing in several respects. The primary consideration in controlling the finances is that the finances of the province should be handled and distributed to the several parts of the province in the best way possible and also in the most prudent, fair and equitable manner. The experience of the past few years shows that our revenue is now more or less stable, and there is no hope of the revenues increasing in the near future. The general taxpayer is unwilling to bear additional burdens unless his capacity to shoulder such weight is increased, and unless he is convinced that the resources which he places, by way of taxation and other methods, into the hands of Government are prudently managed. This burden, as has been shown by several honourable members, is already Rs. 11 per head including the local taxation as against the average incidence of $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the whole of India, that is, the burden in this Presidency is nearly double the average for India. We have also seen the way in which, since the year 1920, our finances have been handled. Sir, you know that the province taxed itself by passing various financial bills, such as the Entertainment Tax Bill, the increased Court-fees and Stamp Bills, etc.,

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and additional revenue was given to the Government. But all that is wasted in the commercial undertakings which the Government have undertaken in this presidency. This can be seen from the losses which the Development Department has suffered. Therefore, it can very well be expected that the general taxpayer is most reluctant to vote for and bear additional taxation. The Honourable the Finance Member has pointed out the various losses in his budget speech. They amount to several crores more than seen in the least. The charge on the general revenues every year is to the extent of Rs. 43 lakhs and odd. We have to pay a subsidy to the extent of Rs. 31 lakhs, and an additional subsidy of 1.49. Besides that, we have an additional figure of Rs. 11.7 lakhs under the head of Interest, and S. F. which the general revenues will have to bear as mentioned in the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member. I find the Honourable the General Member nodding his head. There might be some difference with regard to the sinking fund, which is only a little. At least I am quite sure that the general revenue has to bear every year an additional burden on account of the loss on the commercial transactions in the City of Bombay to the extent of 40 lakhs. All this is owing to the doubtful transactions which the Government undertook for the development of Bombay and which were not properly managed. We can also see the waste which has occurred from the figures which are given on page 29 of the printed speech of the Honourable the Finance Member. His predecessors had built up decent reserve balances. Our balances at the end of 1924-25 had grown to 5½ crores. In the course of five years we expect our balance to go down to one crore at the end of next year. In the course of five years we have spent four crores and a half, that is, at the rate of one crore nearly per year. Similarly the famine fund has dwindled from 242 to 145 lakhs. All this has happened because, instead of adopting measures which would strengthen the taxable capacity of the people, Government undertook doubtful schemes. If we had spent this amount on Education, Sanitation, good roads, better production and better industries in the mofussil areas, the taxable capacity of the people would have been reached to a certain extent. In this connection the question arises when our revenues have no hope of improving, what is the best method to husband our resources. The only remedy which would suggest itself to any prudent man would be to curtail our expenditure. These suggestions have been repeatedly made to Government but the Government are not inclined to pay any heed. Government simply go on adopting some temporary make shifts to meet the expenditure. These temporary devices would not carry us far. We will have to put our finances on a sound basis; otherwise there are signs that we are heading towards bankruptcy. Further, I submit, Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member is an Indian and he has to take courage in both hands and venture to take some bold steps. In this connection I venture to make certain suggestions which shall have to be emphasised. It is retrenchment in all directions.

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The first retrenchment would be reduction in the staff. Certain establishments of certain departments are overmanned. The salaries which have been increased recently on account of war condition have to be brought down. No doubt, I regret very much we cannot touch those superior services at the top. They are sacrosanct and I am the more sorry therefore, in this case, we have to touch the provincial services who have been drawing higher salaries recently. No doubt, when one has to make this suggestion he has to incur the odium to a certain extent. The Finance Member being an Indian may incur some odium and may become unpopular to a certain extent. But he has to face it. It may be asked that we are cutting down the salaries of our own brethren. It is true. I am reminded in this connection of the venerable adage that the father does not allow to beg and the mother does not feed. That is the acute and awkward situation we are placed in. We cannot expect the white bureaucracy to have a soft corner for us. Therefore I submit we have to appeal to our own countrymen to make that sacrifice in the interest of our own country and the uplift of the masses. Many outside the services are making sacrifices. In a way it is not sacrifice as the prices have come down. In this connection you will find from the figures that the expenditure on these services increased a great deal since 1920. At the risk of incurring a certain amount of unpopularity, myself and the honourable member Rao Saheb Desai made a suggestion at the meeting of the Finance Committee which was held in June 1928. It is printed in the minutes of the proceedings of the committee. We went into the question and considered where to apply the pruning knife. We left the menials and the subordinate staff out of our consideration. We suggested a fair reduction of a certain percentage beyond a salary of Rs. 200. When this suggestion was made the Chairman of the committee stated that the provincial service costs only 90 lakhs while the subordinate staff cost four crores. Still he said that he would consider where the saving can be effected. This was in January 1928. We are now in 1929. I want to know what steps the Finance Member has taken during the course of this one year in this connection. So far nothing has been done. If that is the attitude which responsible members take, then our financial position has little hope of improvement.

With these remarks I proceed to the next suggestion, which I hope the Honourable the Finance Member will please take note of. We know that in the mofussil the District and Sessions judges try even cases of murder. Why should we not constitute courts similar to District and Sessions courts in the mofussil in the City of Bombay? Why should the cases arising in the City of Bombay be referred to the High Court only? If it is possible, steps should be taken to amend the law and constitute Sessions and District Judges' courts corresponding to those in the mofussil in the City of Bombay. If some cases are referred to these courts, the incidence of expenditure on the establishment of the High Court including the Honourable Judges will come down. In

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this budget you will find that demands have been made for the establishment of the two additional High Court Judges. Instead of trying cases with the assistance of assessors as in the mofussil if courts similar to the mofussil courts are constituted in Bombay, the judges will try the cases with the assistance of jurors. Another suggestion which I make is with regard to the constitution of subordinate judges' courts of first class jurisdiction with certain pecuniary limits on the original side in Bombay City. Why should cases which can be tried by and are tried in the mofussil by first class judges occupy the time and labour of the Judges of the High Court who are highly paid? There is no pecuniary limit to the jurisdiction of the first class subordinate judges in the mofussil. Why should not the same procedure be adopted in Bombay City also? The third suggestion is to have a Court-fees Act for the Bombay City. The Bombay town does not pay court-fees on the institution of suits. I am making all these suggestions, because it is the undertakings that were carried out in Bombay for the benefit of its commercial community that are the cause of the ruin of our finances. When the Honourable the Finance Member comes forward with the Court-fees Bill and the Stamp Bill we are reluctant to pass them, because we in the mofussil are already over-burdened. As the undertakings that were carried out in Bombay were admittedly in the interests of its commercial classes and the development of Bombay, Bombay should come forward to contribute to the loss and save the general revenue for the development of the rural areas. No doubt there might be fees for solicitors in Bombay, but there is no Court-fees Act in Bombay. We are told that the difficulty in this connection is with regard to some charter by which fees cannot be raised. I do not know whether it is correct or not. If we are to be burdened with further taxation, why should the rural classes suffer for the benefits which have accrued to Bombay City? I ask the Council to consider whether we should go on allowing these various money bills to pass or whether we should force Government to take the steps that I have suggested. These are a few constructive suggestions that I put before the House.

With regard to the history of the progress of the various departments which the Honourable the Finance Member has given us in the budget speech, my honourable friend from Satara has already reviewed the various points. This history was perhaps given with a view to show that in the course of ten years we have made a good deal of progress in nation-building departments. But I beg to submit that this history does not carry conviction. It might be that more money was spent, but the whole question is whether real progress has been made. If you take agriculture, for example, the question is whether production has increased so as to enable the ryot to bear more taxation. We have not got any light thrown on this side of the question, although statistics could have been given to show by how much production has increased. Similarly as regards co-operation. As a member of co-operative societies I know that co-operation has succeeded only in increasing credit societies; with regard to non credit, there might be a few samples here and there, but

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non-credit has not progressed as much as credit. Now, why have credit societies increased? It is because people are poor and want money. When people want money they form themselves into societies and borrow. So, the increase in the number of credit societies does not show that the material prosperity of the people has increased; on the contrary it shows that people are poor. Yesterday one of the honourable members—I think it was Rao Bahadur Naik—complained that there were surpluses in the central and urban banks. Why are there surpluses? It might be argued from that that people are prosperous and there are a number of deposits which cannot be used. As a responsible member of co-operative societies, I say the difficulty is we cannot lend because we cannot hope to get back the money punctually as the agriculturists have not been able to return the money in time. The funds are lying idle because the poor people who come forward cannot be given loans with safety. Therefore, I say that what we are concerned with is real progress. In regard to agriculture, more production is the real proof of progress. With regard to forests.....(Bell rings).

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY ABDULLABHOY LALLJEE (Bombay City): Sir, I am sorry I cannot congratulate Government on the financial position which has been disclosed in the budget. But let me assure the Honourable the Finance Member that we know very well that for the poor condition of our finances he cannot be blamed and in any efforts to get out of the present difficulties he can very well depend on our support.

I must point out at the outset that I do not find where the amount of 56 lakhs which we are not going to contribute to the Government of India has gone. Last year and the year before we had to pay this amount or some portion of it, but this year the whole of that amount we keep and yet the surplus is only a small one. This clearly shows that whatever amount we make available to our Government is lost and not utilised for the benefit of the people. It is quite clear, as my honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji pointed out, that all this is due to the commercial activities of Government during the last nine years. So far as Reclamation is concerned, a large provision has already been made, and we are told that not less than 52 lakhs of rupees have been provided for the deficit. But, Sir, as a member of the Standing Committee of the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme, I myself am not sure what the ultimate cost of that land will be to us, and I may say that I do not think that there is anybody even in the Government who can give a safe estimate of the cost. In these circumstances, the only thing that we can do is to ask the Government of India to consider whether the price they are going to pay for block No. 8 is a reasonable one having regard to our cost of reclamation. There is no doubt that we made a bargain with the Government of India to sell that land to them at a certain price, but it is also the fact that the price at which we sold it to them was the price that we calculated it would cost us to reclaim it, and as the Government of Bombay and the Government of India are one and the same, I think it

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is but fair that this Government should ask the Government of India to consider once again the position as to the real costs that we would incur thereon. Sir, it has been said in this House, and I am sorry to hear from my mofussil friends that this reclamation scheme has been taken for the benefit of the citizens of Bombay. I ask them, in all earnestness, to consider who are the citizens of Bombay. It is not a fact, Sir, that more than half the population of Bombay belong to the mofussil? Is it not a fact that more than one-eighth of the population consists of foreigners who have nothing to do with Bombay. Then I ask who remains in Bombay and for whose benefit this reclamation scheme has been undertaken. This scheme was undertaken, Sir, to provide facilities for military purposes for fancy profits for the Presidency and for the purpose of giving facilities at the port the prosperity of which would yield large Income-tax to Government of India and for increasing the facilities at the port which would also mean, that we can dispose of the produce of our Presidency and of Northern, Central and Western India at a favourable price. It is a fact, Sir, that when you have a large quantity of cotton and grain to be sold, then those commodities must be made available to our buyers in a manner that would involve as less cost as possible. It is with these objects that these schemes have been undertaken, and I assure my friends from the mofussil and Sind that had they been very careful from the very beginning, had they not bargained for posts and otherwise and therefore voted with the Government when the Bombay citizens were crying out that the whole reclamation scheme was going wrong, they would have saved the great losses that we have incurred. But the time is gone. I once more assure them that this scheme was not for the citizens of Bombay alone. Bombay City is only 7 miles in length and only $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile in breadth and not a big country. I would also ask the Honourable the Finance Member and my friend the Honourable the General Member why they are now going on with such schemes as the Ambernath Water scheme and the Ambernath Electric scheme. Last time in August when the proposal was brought that these departments be changed into General Revenue Departments, I objected to it and my objection was there, and I again repeat it that by taking it to General Revenue you are only going to show on the one hand that the whole commercial scheme has not made so much more loss and on the other hand you have been pushing that class of loss in our expenditure into General Revenue. It is not fair. I do not know why these schemes are being kept on. Why is this loss of lakhs being kept on? Why should this Ambernath Water Scheme be necessary when the water supply can be taken from the municipal water works at Tansa? Why should not some arrangement be made with the G. I. P. Railway to make that supply to some industrial concerns that are there instead of running a show that costs us annually a loss of Rs. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The capitalised value, according to the figures given by the Honourable the Finance Member is something like 86 lakhs of rupees. Then as regards the electric scheme, why should that be kept when we have got the Tata Hydro scheme and Andhra Valley Schemes. Last September I raised this

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point, but I find that they are still going on. Again with regard to the Central Salsette Railway, why is that railway required? Why not discontinue it if there is no profit? Why do you incur the cost? We have been paying and paying for it and I beg you to cease asking us to pay more and more, when we are already so much taxed in various ways.

My friend the Honourable the Finance Member has pointed out the progress that has been made during the nine years in education. May I ask him to point out the proportionate figures of how much more money has he given during the last five years for education, medical relief and other departments and how the proportion compares with the progress figures he has given and the amount of taxation that they have collected by various taxes, and the large portion of the excise revenue that was set apart for education and medical relief. The city of Bombay contributes a crore of rupees towards excise revenue. I am sorry to say that more than 60 per cent. of that, namely about 60 lakhs is being paid by the poor labourers from the E, F and G wards. Sir, the Bombay Corporation were appointing their advisory committee. Unfortunately, there has been a difference of opinion between the Corporation and the Government because Government did not carry out the recommendations of the Committee. But this Government does not care two buttons for the representatives of the people and they are not trying to meet them. Is it fair? You have been appointing advisory committees. You have been appointing all sorts of committees to enquire into the excise policy but where there is a difference between the people's representatives and the Government, they do not care to meet them. The most regretful thing is that this portfolio is in the hands of elected ministers and still there have been so many liquor shops installed in different places by the orders of the Commissioner although there have been protests from people and no heed is paid to them. Is that right? Should not the responsible ministers look into such affairs before they allow changes in the policy? Not only that but it is regrettable to find that in certain instances where one minister has disallowed creation of a shop, the other minister has allowed it. I ask what is this? Is this responsible Government? Is there any finality at all?

Then, Sir, coming to the Department of Industries, it has often been said that we must try to retrench and retrench. It is all right, Sir, and I as a business man certainly say "retrench", but I do not agree with many of my friends who are in favour of retrenchment even at the cost of efficiency. We want well paid ministers, we want well paid secretaries, because we want honest and straight-forward work and you cannot get such men in these times when the cost of living is up without paying them well, but I must say when you pay well get right sort of the people and extract full and honest work from them; do not get men who will play in the hands of others or who are incompetent. But you must consider the earning power of the people and you must attempt to increase the earning power. In America the prosperous condition is due to the great earning power of the people which has been and is being

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increased, by its Government and they can afford to spend well. What have our Government done? The only thing that they have done is that they have started fancy reclamation schemes and the back bay schemes as commercial schemes for which they have spent crores of rupees. But they have done nothing for commerce and industry or the employment of young people, which would increase their peoples' earning power. Thousands of young men are turned out every year from the university and their lives are wasted as mere clerks. All this agitation and this unemployment is due to the fact that you did not care to create any sort of employment for your people who paid you so much in taxation. What have you done for Industries? You have allotted a sum of Rs. 1,45,000 for that department while Punjab has allotted 15 lacs and so on others. Is that fair? I ask in all earnestness have you done your duties by the people? For one year there was no Director of Industries to be had in Bombay, is this possible? I say this was intentionally done which is regrettable.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: May I ask the honourable member whether he knows that there is a Director of Industries?

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY ABDULLABHOY LALLJEE: I know it very well and I also know his qualifications better but he has been recently employed. I say for one whole year there was no Director of Industries and that is my complaint. Even now, what have you given to that department? You have given only Rs. 1,45,000 out of a revenue of 14 crores. Is the Honourable Minister aware that nothing at all could be usefully done with this, a meagre sum? Most wonderful of all is that this is the way as to how and what care the Government is taking of our industries? We have got our textile industry of which our Ministers know not a, b, c, and which is going down and down. We have a new industry in the match industry and the fate of it is also going to be the same. This Government did not raise a single finger when it was in danger, but the Government of India at the request of manufacturers appointed a Tariff Board Enquiry. The Tariff Board Enquiry has pointed out many useful things and also that the Bombay Presidency has got the major portion of the match industry of India now in hand. I wonder whether any of our Ministers have cared to read the report. It is really a regrettable thing. I ask where is the good of appointing elected Ministers to be in charge of Industry when they are such as will not or cannot take any interest? The Tariff Board Enquiry which was appointed has made full enquiry for several months. They suggested useful and many ways of protection. They have suggested how the Forest and other departments can help the industry. They have suggested how Government should watch the activities of the Foreign Trust or Syndicate against the actions of which the enquiry was asked to go into and report. But I feel, Sir, that this very Government, who has got a match industry the largest in the whole of India, is not moving a bit in the matter at all. Not only that, but we find, Sir, that even now our Forest Department has not moved a bit in the way of getting soft wood

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for us, this is the position of Indian Factories. I do not know how much facility is given to the foreign Ambernath concern. I find one of the reports of the Forest Department says "Our income is reduced because soft wood was not sold in large quantities". Most surprising. We are getting into Bombay soft wood worth lakhs of rupees from far off foreign lands and there is always a demand for it. The Tariff Board also says so, and still we find the Forest Department report says soft wood was not sold. Sir, if our Government does not wish to encourage industries which they are afraid will go against certain vested interests of Great Britain, at least let them encourage those industries which are in the hands of foreigners like Swedish, Germans, etc., who have nothing to do with India, and thus try and give some employment to those young people whom you are turning out in large numbers from the university. I say please try and find some employment for these people and also for those who cannot earn two full meals from their agricultural life. It is only if you can improve the earning power of the people that you can ask for any taxation, but as we are now placed, I regret, we cannot bear anymore taxation.

One thing more, Sir, and that is with regard to the Sukkur Barrage. I do not know much detail about the Sukkur Barrage, nor do I wish to go into these matters at length. But I do wish to warn Government of one thing, that for seven years we had been speaking about the Back Bay, and the Government in and out of season assured us that all was going on well and well. I hope this is not the case with Sukkur Barrage, and after hearing what a few members have said here, I do think that my honourable friend the General Member, who comes from Sind and who wishes that Sind should not be taxed more than anybody else,—except probably than Bombay City, will look after the Sukkur Barrage. So far as Bombay city is concerned, I am sorry to say that Industries and trade is going away by the carelessness of our Government from Bombay City and with the trade, merchants will go, and I do not know whether Government have already decided on some other city as the future capital where they would shift their capital. But let me tell my friends from the mofussil as a member of an industrial and commercial body, that they have got to think that their produce and welfare of their people depends a lot on the prosperity of the City of Bombay where their produce is sold and where their people get employment of every kind.

One word with regard to the Industrial Housing Schemes. I do feel that these chawls should be sold off by auction as soon as possible, and if you get very little price, even then it is well worth to sell them off. The landlords, who can purchase that property are the only right people who can undertake the risk of collecting rents and repairs. To my mind, these houses will never be occupied and be a paying concern and Government ought to be the last persons to keep them as a commercial undertaking after bitter experience. With these remarks I resume my seat.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT (Surat City) : Sir, in offering a few remarks on the budget speech, with which the Honourable the Finance Member presents the budget for the ensuing year, I have to submit, Sir, that I cannot

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congratulate the Honourable the Finance Member for the production which he is putting before this House. It is a very disappointing budget, and if one gets into a desperate mood, one would say "Throw off the whole budget, we have nothing to do with it, please, revise the whole of it and resubmit it to this House". But, Sir, he in his preface asked for sympathy and craved for the co-operation of the members of this House. I am sure the whole House including myself will offer him all the sympathy that they possess, but as far as the co-operation is concerned, I am afraid that will be withheld wherever it is possible to get a majority in the House. Sir, it is possible for many of us to feel proud that we have got in him a second Indian gentleman who has been appointed to this responsible post of the member who administers the engine power which supplies the driving force to all the Government departments, as he chooses to call it. But, Sir, we expect him to represent things from an Indian standpoint and from an Indian view. We have often blamed European members who held that portfolio for not giving us a very satisfactory solution of the financial affairs. But in him we expected to find a gentleman who could view the finances of this country from an Indian standpoint, who, being an Indian, would understand the spirit of the Indian culture, the life of the Indian agriculturist, of the Indian middle class man, the Indian aristocrat and the Indian millionaire. With the position which he as Indian occupies he would be in a better position to understand accurately the financial position of this country than any man in this place who is not an Indian. But with regard to that, I can say safely that whether the Finance Member is an Indian or a European, it makes very little difference as far as the financial burden of this country is concerned, because he, after all, allows himself to be shaped by the surroundings in which he is placed and he cannot bend this way or the other, particularly when he is propped up by the steel bars round about him. Whatever may be his personal views, I think the various traditions, conventions and Government resolutions which quite bind the Finance Member to a particular position will not let him move this way or the other.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Then, why blame him ?

Dr. M. K. DIXIT : We do not blame him at all, Sir, except for what he has not done. However, I will not say much about that. Sir, next I want to repeat the suggestion made by you. That a number of speakers on this side of the House have spoken, yet in spite of the suggestion you have made, no member on the opposite benches has taken the trouble to reply to some of the criticisms which have been offered by members from this side. It is not fair that all members from this side should speak when more than 50 per cent. of the time allotted for discussion is already passed, and we have not heard a single member from the Government benches in answer to the criticism made by members on this side. What will happen is, Sir, that on the last day a number of speakers will get up to make speeches and you, Sir, will give preference

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to the members of the Government benches saying that they not having had an opportunity to speak should then be allowed to do so.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT: I do not wish to make any reflection on the Chair, Sir. I do not mean others will not be allowed to make their speeches. I should have expected after what happened last evening that we would have heard the Honourable the General Member telling us something in reply to the various statements which were given expression to here and against which he protested in a very billious manner. It is for the honourable members on the opposite side to fix their own time for having their say.

With regard to the speech itself, the Honourable the Finance Member has told us of the various changes that have been made by the Finance Department by transferring one head from the head of General Administration to another head of revenue and from Forest to Revenue and from Revenue to General Administration. He has not however told us the reasons for making those changes.....

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Under the orders of the Auditor-General.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT: The Auditor-General has not pointed out any specific reasons for making those transfers. These are changes in which an ordinary member of this Council is likely to get puzzled and likely to make certain remarks which will be refuted by a Government member "under that the remarks were uncalled for as particular items are transferred to other heads under orders of the Auditor General". When we look through these two books—the Blue and the White—we find that certain items have been removed from one sub-head to another sub-head and the whole thing becomes very puzzling and perplexing. I would particularly refer to the item of the Water Diviner which has been showed in somewhere in the Irrigation Department and his pay has been made non-votable. That was made non-votable last year I know and it is not possible, Sir, to touch any non-votable item. But when you want to make a cut in a particular item which is non-votable, we, as a rule, touch the establishment charges as suggested by your predecessor and make such a cut in it that that particular officer finds it impossible to carry on the work. But here also the establishment charges of Rs. 16,000 have been mixed up somewhere in the Rs. 90,000 of establishment charges under the particular head and it is not possible to find out where the Rs. 16,000 for establishment of the Water Diviner has been put in. It is very necessary to find out where that item of Rs. 16,000 is.

We have been discussing these budgets for the last nine years. This is the last session and we again have to repeat that grievance namely, that out of a revenue of 15 crores and odd of this presidency, only a small amount of about 25 per cent. of the whole budget, viz., 4 crores or so are accessible to us and we can only touch that amount and the remaining remains untouchable by us. However, as the Government, at this stage constituted as we are, cannot do anything in the matter

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and therefore we can only make a passing reference and enter our protest in this matter. This 25 per cent. of the whole revenue is set apart for the transferred departments, the major portion of which is meant for the so-called nation-building departments. The Honourable the Finance Member has indulged in that platitude and compared the expenditure on the nation-building departments to-day with the expenditure on these departments in the early part of the reforms or in the pre-reform period. One expected that he would be able to show some brilliant figures to substantiate that the reforms have been useful in building the nation and making it very healthy. I am afraid the figures which these two books contain do not substantiate in any way that we have developed at all the nation-building departments or that we have marched forward in building up those departments at all. I would only refer to the first year of our reforms, namely, 1921-22 and the last year of this Council's life, namely, 1929-30. In the matter of education in 1921-22 we spent something like 172 lakhs and for next year, i.e., in 1929-30 we have sanctioned 2 crores 2 lakhs. In the department of public health in 1921-22 our figure was 32 lakhs 64 thousand and for 1929-30 it is 33 lakhs 76 thousand. In medical, in 1921-22 it was 46 lakhs and in this budget it is 53 lakhs 82 thousand. In agriculture in 1921-22 we spent 29·88 lakhs and in 1929-30 we will spend 30·55 lakhs. In industries, we spent in 1921-22, Rs. 7,60,000 but this budget provides for only Rs. 1,47,000 (which shows how far we are advancing). In the scientific departments we spent in 1921-22 Rs. 1,86,000 whereas this budget has Rs. 90,000 for it. In Public Works Department we spent in 1921-22 188 lakhs and this time we are going to spend 127 lakhs. This is the balance sheet of the nation-building that we have done in the last nine years. In 1921-22 we spent in all 4 crores 78 lakhs. In the present budget we will spend 4 crores 40 lakhs. There is a deplorable retrogression by 38 lakhs in the nation-building departments. When we compare the revenue of these two years, namely, 1921-22 and 1929-30, we find that our resources then were 13 crores and this time they will be 14½ crores and odd. When our revenues have increased by 1½ crores, our actual expenditure in building up of the nation has gone down by something like 37 to 38 lakhs. These are the figures taken from the books which have been prepared by the Department and I am quoting from them. I stand open to correction, however, if I have made any mistakes, but so far as the two books are concerned, if they have given us the correct picture of the finances and the amounts that are to be spent and of what we spent in 1921-22, I believe I have not committed a mistake.....

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : You have.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT : I am open to correction in that case. I will repeat here one thing that we have been sanctioning 2 crores for education, but when we look to the actual amount spent on education we find it is less than 2 crores by 3 or 4 lakhs. So we need not be very much elated at the figure that we are providing in the budget estimates. We must look at the amount actually spent by the department and then we can see

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how really we stand in the matter of education. In the matter of education there is so much to say that one cannot say it at this stage in the 20 minutes that are at our disposal. Roughly, one can say that the Education Department ought, by this time, to have been spending more than Rs. 3½ crores. After the passing of the Primary Education Act and after giving solemn promises to the people of this Presidency that within 10 years not a child will be left uneducated, what is the condition that we find to-day? We have been told that it is not possible to give grants to local authorities, that it is not possible to sanction schemes which have been submitted by the local authorities, and that unless and until additional money is forthcoming by way of further taxation nothing further can be done. I repeat the argument that in 1921-22 our revenue was Rs. 13 crores; to-day it is Rs. 14½ crores. Where have the additional Rs. 1½ crores disappeared? Much of that was promised for the development of education, public health and medical relief. Sir, this is a deplorable state of affairs. I understand that if Government are not prepared to do their duty, the people are prepared to agitate outside and make the position of the Honourable Minister for Education certainly very hot for him. In a cool room like this a hot position will be welcome; but, after all, it should not be too hot for him. I warn the Honourable Minister of Education that his position is not a bed of roses. We have in front of us all the three Ministers sitting, who have had the experience of the Education portfolio, one after the other, and I am afraid I have to tell them the same story that I am telling to the present Education Minister. The demand from the people, particularly the backward classes, the Muhammadans and the depressed classes will be such that he will find it very hard to meet their demands, unless he makes his demand, when he sits in the Cabinet, in such an emphatic way for education purposes that he shall get what the people demand and he will not be satisfied with what the Government will give him.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member has only two minutes.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT: I will finish in two minutes. I will not indulge in any further criticism on the subject of education, because we can say a lot more on another occasion. As far as medical relief is concerned, the Honourable Minister is not very careful in spending the money at his disposal. I will just refer to one or two small items which I have come across in the Blue Book. The first is about the new Dental Hospital, which is to be opened. Sir, Government have accepted the system of appointment of honorary medical officers to the hospitals in this presidency. So many honorary medical officers are working in the G. T., the J. J. and several other hospitals. Here I find that a dental surgeon is to be appointed on a salary of Rs. 600. I am sure the medical profession in Bombay has not run bankrupt. Government could easily find a dental surgeon of good repute and good qualifications and efficiency to work as an honorary dental surgeon, and this small amount could easily be applied for giving medical relief somewhere in the

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mofussil where people are dying without any medical help. I will not take any more time of the House, but will conclude, as my time is over.

Mr. G. WILES : Sir, I gather that our friends opposite are running short of ammunition, and I will try and give them as much as I can before the tea interval.

This is the sixth consecutive budget which it has been my duty to defend before this honourable House. I am on the way to become one of the oldest inhabitants, and I think it is rather unkind of the honourable member from Bombay to take exception to the fact that I sometimes smile at my recollections. A smile does not necessarily mean that one is taking one's job lightly. A smile does not always cover a light heart. I might, after all these years, claim to weep ; I prefer to keep smiling. I look back over six years, and I recall some of the arguments which are recorded in the volumes of our proceedings. I recall that even in those days of large balances we were told that we had deficit budgets. We were told in the same breath that we had no right to go on piling up those huge balances. We accepted some of those criticisms ; the balances have to some extent disappeared. What is the criticism now ? We are accused of having squandered them and of heading again direct to bankruptcy. One honourable member calculates that we are Rs. 2½ crores worse off than we were two years ago. I interjected " Why are we worse off ? " and I repeat it " Why are we worse off ? " I say that the financial position of a Government cannot be judged as you would judge the financial position of an individual. We cannot calculate our financial position by the size of our accumulated balances, nor by the size of our surpluses. Progress demands constantly and steadily increasing expenditure. The extent to which we have been able to incur expenditure in the past and are able to incur it in the future is the measure by which we are better off. The extent to which we are better off than we were six years ago is not to be judged by the smallness or largeness of our balances, but the smallness of the increase in expenditure. We are worse off now than we were six years ago because we have not any longer increasing revenues wherewith to increase our expenditure. I think the House itself implicitly recognises this fact by the constant demands which have been made upon us for new services, for new expenditure. Now, it is no indication that we are on the road to bankruptcy that we are spending up to the limit of our resources. Bankruptcy means the incurring of expenditure the meeting of which one cannot foresee, which one has no prospect of meeting. We have not reached that stage. But I am not prepared to say that we should not soon be upon that easy road, if some of our critics had their way.

I have no intention of asserting that the administration of the Government of Bombay, in the past ten years, has made no mistakes. On the other hand, it is no part of my duties to make any admissions to the contrary. It is the duty of the Finance Department to advise Government as to the best way in which to utilise the resources which are at its disposal. We have to deal with facts as they are, and not with facts as they would have been if certain policies had been different. I have

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said that the measure of the extent to which we are better off is expenditure properly incurred. I should have thought that honourable members would have found ammunition enough in the admissions of Government without their having to dig into these volumes for ammunition which sometimes does not fit their guns. One honourable member said yesterday that this budget is a puzzle to the man who will not go deep into the subject. He did not apply the warning to himself, for within a few minutes he went on to make quotations from a note of mine in the Blue Book which he interpreted as a proposal to spend Rs. 19 lakhs of our balances on capital works. He read the first two lines of one sentence, but he did not read the next two which explained that this Rs. 19 lakhs is only a temporary overdraft which is going to be met after the end of the year from borrowing.

Let me come now to another question which I gather has puzzled a good many honourable members. They seem to be under the impression that something like a crore or a crore and a half has disappeared somewhere—God knows where. I will try and tell them. There is no secret about it. It should have been clear from the speeches of His Excellency and the Honourable the Finance Member in which they have shown how progress in the various departments has been possible, in spite of the fact that there has been no increase in our revenues. It has been rendered possible by redistribution of certain expenditure. Our revenues available for expenditure have been increased in the following ways since the period of reforms. We have about 60 lakhs from additional provincial taxation. We have about 63 lakhs by reduction of the famine assignment. We have about 56 lakhs by remission of the provincial contribution to the Government of India. That comes to a total of 179 lakhs. Fifty lakhs of that has gone in meeting the policy of prohibition which has been accepted by Government and by this Honourable House. Fifty lakhs at least has been the cost of the policy of rationing. Twenty lakhs of it has been absorbed by the fall in the stamp revenues. In estimating 60 lakhs of additional taxation, it was taken that about 20 lakhs of that was under stamp duty. The revenue from stamp duty has remained on the same level. Twenty lakhs is the estimate by which it would have fallen, but for the increase in stamp duty. Fifty-eight lakhs is the cost of the Development Department, now debited to the revenues of the province. That is a total of 128 lakhs out of an additional revenue of 179 lakhs available. The balance of 51 lakhs has been distributed over the various departments, reserved and transferred, in the manner in which every honourable member can discover for himself from the blue book. Since I have been in this department the allotment of revenues available has been made strictly arithmetically to all departments, whether transferred or reserved, except in the case of a few instances only when additional sums were granted for education and agriculture. I regard it as rather unfortunate, Sir, that the honourable member, who represents the Indian merchant community of Bombay, in his efforts to push through as much constructive criticism as he possibly could within 20 minutes, became, at any rate to me, largely

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unintelligible. Putting what I was able to gather together with his criticisms of previous budgets, I conclude that his main argument was that Government, because it is irresponsible, has been able to regard with indifference and callousness the interests of Industry, that they have no business to be running any commercial departments at all, and that they are indifferent to loss, because the taxpayer pays for it. He quoted statistics which he must have considered supported his view. Well, Sir, that may be very good electioneering ; I do not accept it as an effective criticism of the budget. Statistics, as the honourable members know, are dangerous things. I am not going to attempt to answer the honourable member from Bombay in this respect. I think he will admit that in his haste some of his statistics were not put very clearly. Per capita statistics are dangerous in any country and particularly dangerous in India, because India is very badly off for statistics at present. It is quite impossible within the space of a short speech to deal with those we have. We all know that in the Bombay Presidency taxation is higher than it is in any other part of India. That has often been discussed in this House and some reasons for the high taxation as well as for the high cost of living, and consequently high rate of expenditure have been put forward to you. This does not mean necessarily that we are running into insolvency, as has been stated.

I deny that it is a fact that the Government of Bombay is indifferent to the industrial interests of this province. I think I may say that they share to the fullest extent the apprehensions which are at present felt by the commercial community in respect of Bombay City. On one point I heartily agree with the honourable member from Bombay, that is, the sooner we can bring the accounts of the Development Department into the ordinary accounts of the presidency the better. But I most emphatically disagree with him when he lays down that it is the early duty of Government to close down and call off all its enterprises, whatever the loss and cut this loss. I think that the honourable member has been carried away by his own commercial experience. In this respect Government is better off than a commercial firm, in that it can afford to wait for its profits.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI : At whose cost ?

Mr. G. WILES : When Government sees that it is profitable to do so, it can wait, it is its duty to wait in order ultimately to reduce the cost on the taxpayer.

I have not the time nor is it necessary to apply these arguments in any detail to the enterprises in Bombay or elsewhere. That can be done by the Honourable Member or the Honourable Minister in charge of the departments. I am only mentioning for consideration certain aspects which I think require not to be lost sight of.

A few words now about the Famine Fund. Several honourable members have, no doubt unintentionally, misrepresented the present position. It is not a fact that money is being transferred from the Famine Fund to meet ordinary expenditure. I will not now repeat the arguments in favour of the change in policy which will be found in

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the record of the proceedings of the time, last year. The reason why money is now being transferred to revenue from the Famine Fund is that the Famine Fund is largely in excess of the dimensions prescribed by the Devolution Rules. The only way in which we can spend money from the Famine Fund is to transfer it to revenue. The money is still being used exactly for the purposes for which it was originally assigned. It is a mere travesty of the truth to make the assertion that we are robbing the poor cultivator in order to provide for unnecessary expenditure in the reserved departments. That argument is almost as ludicrously inaccurate as that of the same honourable member that the Bombay Police used to keep the peace with some 12 lakhs and now with 30 lakhs have to call in the military.

It seems desirable that I should say a few words about the form in which our accounts are kept. It seems to have given rise to certain misapprehensions. The honourable member from Surat (Mr. Shivdasani) argued yesterday that we should present statistics corrected so 'as to discount those changes which have been introduced in the system. The honourable House will recollect that for several years I put before them in the Blue Book statements which gave figures of revenue and expenditure corrected according to the methods followed since the Reforms. I said last year that the changes had become so numerous that it was no longer possible to present any such statements and make them intelligible. The other honourable member from Surat asked why all these changes were necessary. The system of accounts is not entirely under our control, and occasionally we do make protests when we think that the changes are not absolutely essential. But I take it that the Accounts Department, like all other departments of Government, has ideals to which they try to work up, and if honourable members will consider why the changes were introduced they will find that in every instance there is a theoretical improvement. It is not done in order to bewilder anybody.

One point I may note. The honourable member from Surat (Dr. Dixit) does not know how to discover the Water Diviner: I find him at page 59 of the Blue Book.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT: I was talking about the establishment charges.

Mr. G. WILES: You will find the Water Diviner and his establishment put under 15-Irrigation. These charges are financed from the Famine Fund, but they are rightly recorded under Irrigation to which they apply.

Mr. M. K. DIXIT: The Water Diviner is there—Rs. 30,000—but his establishment is not mentioned separately there; we do not know where his establishment is mixed up in the general establishment head.

Mr. G. WILES: This is a small matter; the honourable member can search it out at his leisure; I have no time to explain it now.

I will only ask the honourable House not to forget that if you will have comparable statements you must not complain if you find different figures in adjoining statements referring apparently to the same head of

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expenditure or revenue. There is no feasible method that I know of of explaining how extraneous items have been removed from certain totals in order to make them comparable, other than by putting in elaborate footnotes which are liable to be overlooked. If you will have comparable statements then you must not forget that most important matters will be in footnotes; it is essential to read those in order to understand what the figures mean.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : I am inclined to sympathise, Sir, with the lot of the Honourable the Finance Member who has been put in charge of a sinking ship thrown into deep waters by his predecessors and certain other persons in authority. But I wish at the same time to congratulate him for the manner in which he has presented his budget. I mean to say that he has brought out in prominent relief the real condition of the finances of this Presidency as was not done till now which is always required by this side of the House all these years of the new reformed councils. Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member has just in the beginning of his speech tried to point out that within the last two years the Government to which he belongs has tried to economise the expenditure of the presidency. He has said that in 1927-28 the Government has made an economy of 7 lakhs in the expenditure. The Honourable the Finance Member has further said that in the revised estimate for 1928-29 the Government has further made an economy of expenditure of the amount of about 12 lakhs. After hearing these remarks of Honourable the Finance Member one would run away with the idea that after all Government have come to their senses and have not been running ahead in expenditure. But when one looks deep into the affairs the picture is altogether the same if not worse. This economy of 7 lakhs in the accounts of 1926-27 and of 12 lakhs in the revised estimates of 1928-29 has not been economy in the real sense in the departments in which the Government has been all along making expenditure. When we look to the blue books and the note of the honourable member the Finance Secretary, the statement shows that all this economy has been made in departments which matter to the people. The whole economy, Sir, has been made in the nation building departments, and while they are economising only 12 lakhs on the whole, as a matter of fact, they are saving 24 lakhs from the nation building departments generally, and spending the remainder in their pet subjects like the Development and the expenditure in England. One would at once find that in the very material and substantial nation building departments of Education and Medicine the Government has economised Rs. 5 lakhs and one lakh respectively in expenditure in the accounts of 1927-28 and the same again in the expenditure as shown in the revised estimate for 1928-29. So the position is this, that on one hand when we want money for education and other nation building departments Government says that we have no money and that we cannot sanction more money. After the demands have been sanctioned they are withholding from us portions of these sanctioned grants. I will put it to you that in the budget estimate of 1927-28 Government sanctioned

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2 crores and 5 lakhs and the account of 1927-28 shows that Government has only spent 2 crores and 1 lakh, that is, they have spent 4 lakhs less. In the budget estimate for 1928-29 they have sanctioned 2 crores and 9 lakhs, while the revised estimate shows that they have spent only 2 crores and 9 lakhs. That is, out of 7 and 12 lakhs shown as economised, the major portion is taken away from education, medical, jails and public health. Sir, Government are giving us very very economic grants on Education and Medicine, crying at the top of their voice all along that there is no money. And still they would take away some part of it and spend it on Development and the expenses in England, etc. Sir, this, to say the least, is a sort of revenge on nation building departments because people want more for nation building. That is a situation which is hard to tolerate. At the top of this His Excellency in his address has referred to the raising of school fees in our secondary schools, adding that 2 lakhs have got to be increased by that or other ways. His Excellency said that there was an understanding at the time of sanctioning money for primary education that these fees on education shall have to be raised. Now, what are the facts. The fact is that even the sanctioned grants for 1927-28 were not spent fully. Five lakhs were economised in that year. In 1928-29 also 5 lakhs have been economised. Then, where was the dearth of money? In the first place, when the grant of 15 lakhs was given for compulsory education, there was never the understanding that was conditional on the raising of fees of secondary education. I have looked to the statement in the Blue Book; I have looked to the introductory remarks of the Finance Secretary both last year and this year; I have looked to the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member and to the speech of the Honourable the Education Minister. But nowhere do I find any mention that there was any understanding that 15 lakhs would be given only if 2 lakhs fees would be taken from the school boys. There was no such understanding. There was sufficient money, from the fact that there was surplus of 5 lakhs. Then, where is the necessity of taking 2 lakhs from the school fees from students. So, the whole case goes away. It has no basis at all on understanding or on dearth of money or even on necessity. Now, Sir, I would rather take a little time to show to you how this expenditure other than on education and other nation-building departments is being made, more than the sanctioned grants in the following statement which I have prepared.

Expenditure in England, which was budgetted at Rs. 33,74,000 in the 1927-28 budget estimate, went up in revised estimates to Rs. 35,04,000. And in accounts it goes to Rs. 37,23,000. Again, in 1928-29 in the budget estimate you put it at Rs. 37,71,000; in the revised estimates you bring it to Rs. 40,96,000 and we don't know to what it would go in actual accounts. That is, you are sanctioning one thing, going to 3 lakhs more in the revised estimate and going to 2 lakhs more again in the accounts. The same process is repeated for 1928-29. But what is the condition of education? In education you are budgeting Rs. 2 crores and 5 lakhs, and in revised estimates you are going less by about half a lakh, and you are going less by

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5 lakhs in accounts. The same process is repeated in 1928-29. You are sanctioning 2 crores and 9 lakhs in the budget estimates and going by 5 lakhs less in the revised estimates and one does not know to what still less it would go in actual accounts. My whole point is this that, when it is a question of people's departments, the nation-building departments, Government go down. When the question is one of their pet departments, Government go high in all the three processes. That is how Government are treating nation-building departments, for which we have raised our protests and we are still raising them, and we know what luck or fate we are coming to. Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member has dwelt on the problem of education and has given the figures that about 2,000 schools have been increased in these years of reformed Councils. Now, Sir, let us remember that the Bombay presidency was the first presidency in all the presidencies and provinces of India to pass the Primary Education Act. That is, we were first in the field for the expansion of primary education. Then, Sir, Bombay presidency is the first in taxation; we are the most highly taxed presidencies in the whole of India. Then, in point of culture and in point of education, we are the foremost or at least equal to any of the other presidencies or provinces in the whole of the country. Then, what is the condition? After all these three conditions in our favour, meaning the passing of primary education act, our taxation and our culture, where are we? The Honourable the Finance Member will agree with me that in primary education to-day we are at the bottom of every presidency and every province in the whole of our country. In spite of our taxation, in spite of our coming first in the field to pass the primary education Act, in education we are at the bottom of all. Is it not a disgrace and a calumny to the presidency? It is a story of pain and of shame to this presidency. And I put it to the whole Government, not leaving aside the Honourable Minister of Education, who matters a little, but the Honourable the Finance Member—and Government as a whole—who matters much more—I put it to them: Is it fair that this most highly taxed presidency should be at the bottom in the matter of education when compared with all the minor and major provinces of the country?

Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member has then dwelt upon the local bodies. But he has been very discreetly silent about the expenditure on local bodies. He has said that the local bodies have been democratised in these years. Well, Sir, what are the conditions of their finances? What are the grants that you are making to the local bodies? How are you helping them? Only last year we had Rs. 19,21,000 as the grants given to the local bodies for their communications and other purposes. This very year you are reducing it by Rs. 3,21,000 and bringing it down to Rs. 16,00,000. And again, whenever any demand from the local bodies comes, I have the experience of one district and that is the district of Ahmedabad, to which I belong, that every single little demand coming from the local body to the Government has been rejected almost always. There was an instance, a very recent instance, that the Education Department sent a proposal to the Ahmedabad district local

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board saying that there was a necessity of opening a school with an agricultural bias, and that if the district local board sanctioned one-third of the expenditure the Government would be pleased to sanction two-thirds. The district local board immediately sanctioned one-third of the expenditure to be spent on the agricultural school. At the very next meeting the Government says that they cannot guarantee the expenditure in future for all these agricultural schools. We did not originate the demand; we did not start the proposal; the proposal was started by the department. We only passed it, and when we pass a resolution, Government turns round and says "No, no; we cannot guarantee such a grant." Every little thing which goes to Government from the local body has been rejected like this. And then they come forward and say "We have democratised the local bodies. Please do not for the sake of courtesy and decency trifle with the words 'democracy' and 'democratisation' like this. Do not take vengeance or revenge on the democratic institutions by saying that 'we are not prepared to give you grants, we have democratised you, therefore, take up all taxation.' " That is not the way in which at least, when Government is being represented by a majority of Indians, that they should treat the local bodies run by honorary elected representatives of the people.

The Honourable the Finance Member, when discussing about agriculture, has dwelt upon the agricultural shows in different parts of the presidency. Yes, Sir. I had the pleasure of visiting the Ahmedabad show. It was really a very big and pompous affair, to which every one, if not for any utility, for the sake of pleasure and fun, used to go and visit. But then, I have been a man who is wandering in the rural area, coming in direct touch with the farmers, and I assure you that all the money spent on these big agricultural shows has not benefited the actual farmers even by 5 per cent. of the expenditure done. Such a big show, such a big fuss, so many people going there, who is going to care for the agriculturist? That is not the way in which you will be able to take to new and scientific methods which you want to put before the farmers. If you really mean to benefit the farmers in their agriculture, then, Sir, the only way is to organise the taluka or the group taluka shows, where farmers can leisurely come; they can be leisurely attended to and can be brought into touch with only those things that are very essential for the purpose of agriculture. Do not put five thousand things at a time but put 25 things or so which are absolutely useful to him for the improvement of agriculture in his own field.

With these words, I would ask the Honourable the Finance Member to look to this and to remember that we expect from him better things in future.

Mr. G. L. WINTERBOTHAM (Bombay Chamber of Commerce): Mr. President, I find myself in agreement with the majority of honourable members in regarding the picture which this budget presents as one of unrelieved gloom. It seems to me that there is no particular

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point in endeavouring to blame Government for the mistakes of the past. The establishment of the Development Department has hung a load of debt round the neck of this presidency, relief from which will not, in my opinion, be found in the lifetime of any member of this Council, not excluding our honourable friend, the President of the Youth League, but, Sir, the fault for that, which is the most terrible calamity to the Presidency, must partly be shared by this honourable House itself who approved of the policy and who should have stopped it at the time. However, I am not concerned with that. The load of debt remains and the peak has not yet been reached as far as I can see.

The other notable feature is of course the Meston Settlement, the iniquity of which has been spoken and written about so much that there is no point in mentioning it further here. What I am concerned about is not so much the past as the future, and if I may venture to criticise the admirable work which the Finance Secretary shows in his two books yearly, I would say that he has become so familiar with the work himself that he possibly fails to appreciate the effect which it produces on his readers. My opinion is that there is such a mass of wonderful detail that you are unable to see the wood for the trees, and what I should appreciate very much indeed would be some summary of the position, short if possible, showing the prospects of the future, because when I say that the position is one of gloom, I mean I see no hope of improvement except possibly in the question of the revision of the Meston Settlement. I do not myself understand why land revenue should not be an increasing source of income to the presidency, but as far as one can understand, every increased assessment is resisted however justifiable, and the expanding source of revenue which is there for what they call the agricultural presidencies is not here in the industrial presidency. I do not understand the difference and in that particular connection when honourable members ask what is going to be the future of the Sukkur Barrage and express fears as to whether it may not lead to the same eventual load of debt to the presidency as the Bombay Development Department has done, I would suggest that the answer to that depends largely on the form of Government which is in power in future and the policy of the House which will have the shaping of the policy to be followed by that Government, for, unless there is some settled policy which will not be altered at the whim of politicians for the sale of the land and the increase of the assessments, there will inevitably be financial failure. It seems to me that one possibly bright spot in the future, apart from the revision of the Meston Settlement, is the increased revenue from the very large sums which have been and are being spent now on irrigation projects, and I should particularly like to hear from those whose duty it is to deal with the point, what are those prospects and what returns we are likely to get for the money in future which is being spent on these irrigation projects.

I will not presume, Sir, to venture on a criticism of any details in the budget. I confess that in the time at my disposal I have never been able to understand the budget and I very much doubt whether I would ever

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be able to understand it even though I had unlimited time, but there are two particular points in the honourable member, the Finance Secretary's defence of the present position which I cannot allow to pass without comment. He rightly points out that one of the reasons for there being less money to spend now than there was some years ago is the fact that 56 lakhs of rupees annually has to be devoted to interest charges on the Development schemes. He also said in the same reference that the measure of progress was the measure of the amounts spent on work properly undertaken. I venture to submit with all deference that that 56 lakhs of rupees cannot come under the heading, "work properly undertaken." The other point which the honourable member the Finance Secretary dealt with is this. He said that Government, in relation to closing down unremunerative schemes was in a different position to an individual. Possibly so and I do not dispute that, nor am I an advocate of closing down out of hand all schemes merely because they are unremunerative, but I take exception to the suggestion made by the Finance Secretary that where Government sees an eventual profit it is in the benefit of the taxpayer necessarily to wait and take that profit which may eventuate in the far distant future. But at whose cost? At the cost of the taxpayer and the individual members of the presidency in the intervening time because the money which is being devoted to debt charges in the interim ought properly to have been spent on the progress of the presidency. From that point of view it does not seem to me that the honourable member the Finance Secretary's defence necessarily holds water.

There is one particular point in the budget which I trust I shall not be out of order in mentioning. The Honourable the Finance Member in his speech has called attention to the primary duty of Government, namely, the preservation of law and order. He has indicated that some relief will be given this year by increasing the average police grant by four lakhs. I am unable to find in the budget how this 4 lakhs of rupees is proposed to be allocated, but may I venture to emphasise the imperative necessity of bringing the Bombay city police force up to strength. I speak with great restraint although on this subject I feel very strongly. In the past the Council have made cuts which have necessitated reduction in the strength of the police force. We have in fact been gambling on peace and we have in practice had sufficient proof that the gamble was not justified. I therefore beg Government most earnestly to consider whether this time, when the memory of the recent happenings is fresh in the minds of all of us, is not the right time to put this matter in order, and to bring the strength of the Bombay city police force to such a level as is commensurate with the safety of the public.

Mr. F. J. GINWALLA (Bombay City, North): Sir, before I rise and criticise the budget, I have to draw the attention of the Chair as well as the Honourable the Finance Member and the honourable member the Finance Secretary, that the budget is generally not received by honourable members in time in order to enable them to study it sufficiently to enable them to criticise it when it comes here. The present budget

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was received by me only five days before the commencement of the session. There are other important documents like the Public Accounts Committee's Report, the Appropriation of Accounts Report and the Audit Report, which were received by me only two days ago. I hope therefore that in future at least these documents will be sent to the honourable members in time so that they may prepare themselves to criticise it in this hall.

I have been saying time and again, since I have been a member of this Council, that the budget presented to this Council was a bankrupt budget. My honourable friend Mr. Wiles says that it cannot be termed a bankrupt budget. He says that when we are unable to meet our debts, then we are called bankrupt. To that, I would tell him "Unless you put your house in order, unless you increase your revenues and reduce your expenditure, you will not be able to meet future charges, and therefore you are heading for bankruptcy, and a position will come when you will not be able to meet your debts without additional taxation." Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member has shown very clearly on the present occasion, our position as regards our debt and interest charges. He has shown that the total debt of the Presidency comes to Rs. 43 crores and the total debt charges come to Rs. 2,28,00,000, less receipts Rs. 53 lakhs; the total debt charges come to Rs. 1,75,00,000, out of which he says Rs. 1,07,00,000 are met from revenues and Rs. 68,000 from capital. That is the position of the presidency regarding our interest charges and our total debt.

Then as regards Sukkur Barrage, the total debt in 1927-28 comes to Rs. 7,47,00,000 and in 1928-29 to Rs. 2,47,00,000. The total debt up to the end of March 1928 comes to Rs. 9,84,00,000, or roughly Rs. 10 crores. On the top of that, in next year's budget there is a provision of Rs. 3,55,00,000. So the total debt for Sukkur Barrage will come to about Rs. 14 crores. Then as regards interest charges for Sukkur Barrage, the amount will be Rs. 51 lakhs, out of which Rs. 10 lakhs will be met from revenue and Rs. 41 lakhs from capital expenditure.

Then we come to the Development Department. That also tells the same tale. The total debt on Back Bay up to 31st March 1928 was Rs. 7,36,00,000; on the industrial housing scheme it was Rs. 3,48,00,000, and on the suburban schemes Rs. 3,13,00,000. The total debt on the Back Bay reclamation, the industrial housing scheme and the suburban housing schemes comes to Rs. 14,13,00,000. The interest charges on this, as explained by the Honourable the Finance Member come to Rs. 80 lakhs, out of which Rs. 54 lakhs will be met from revenue and Rs. 25 lakhs from capital. This is the position of the presidency as regards our commitments. The chief reason why we have to face such a situation is the policy of Government in undertaking these costly schemes. If schemes like the Sukkur Barrage and the Development Department schemes had not been undertaken, this presidency would not have been faced with such a serious situation. Government have time and again admitted the position, and the only solution which they offer is either

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that there should be additional taxation, or a revision of the Meston Settlement; they do not know of any further remedy.

As regards the Sukkur Barrage, the original estimate was Rs. 18,35,00,000. That estimate has been increased to Rs. 20 crores and odd. Last time when the budget was presented to this House, my honourable friend Mr. Harrison assured me and my honourable friends that the estimate of Rs. 18,35,00,000 would not be exceeded by 5 per cent. I told him that we were afraid that at this rate it might come to Rs. 36 crores; but he assured me fully that in view of the experience gained in the Back Bay scheme, the estimates would not be exceeded by 5 per cent. But now, the Finance Member himself explained in his speech that the estimates would be exceeded by Rs. 2 crores. At this rate, I have not the slightest doubt in my own mind that, when the scheme is wholly completed, the cost would not be less than Rs. 30 crores. Therefore, for the last two years I have been pressing upon the honourable the General Member (it was then the Honourable Sir Cowasji Jehangir) that, in view of our experience of Back Bay, he should appoint an advisory committee to go into the whole of the Sukkur Barrage scheme, to look into the estimates, and wherever necessary to effect economies and retrenchment. Last time, the Honourable Sir Cowasji Jehangir gave us to understand that he was willing to comply with our request, but at the last moment, when the demand was made and granted, we came to know that, instead of complying with our request for the appointment of an advisory committee consisting of a majority of the non official members, a small committee was appointed for the purpose of inspecting the Sukkur Barrage works. We do not care for these shows. What we want really is that this Council must have effectual control over such huge expenditure. My honourable friend Mr. Mir Mahomed Baloch has complained time and again that the officers are spending money like water as it were, and there is absolute necessity to have effective control of this House over the expenditure. I do not know why the Honourable the General Member should not accept the suggestion for the appointment of a committee to watch the scheme. If he does not do so, the only result will be that he will lose the benefit of the advice, help and co-operation of the members of this Council, with the result that ultimately Government will have to face a serious situation and the taxpayer will have to pay for it.

Then it has been pointed out by several members of the Public Accounts Committee, and notably by my honourable friend Mr. Jairamdas, that there should be a separate budget demand for the Lloyd Barrage, in order that we may concentrate our attention on it. The Honourable Sir Chunilal Mehta informed us that that matter would be considered at the time of the next budget. I should think that the suggestion of my honourable friend Mr. Jairamdas is perfectly laudable, and should be accepted by Government.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : There is a separate demand for Lloyd Barrage,

Mr. F. J. GINWALLA : I am glad that there is a separate demand for it. Then it has been pointed out by the Auditor General that there should be a repayment scheme for the Barrage debt. I would like to know from the honourable member the Finance Secretary as to whether this suggestion of the Auditor General for a scheme for repayment of Barrage debt has been brought into existence, and whether that suggestion has been carried out.

The next point to which I wish to draw the attention of the House is the sale of barrage lands. I learn that $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of acres have been sold at a ridiculously low rate of Rs. 15 per acre to the Sind zamindars on the strength of a promise made by Government to sell those lands to them at a concessional rate. My point is this, that when we have to face a grave situation here we should not sell those lands at such low rates. If 6 acres can be purchased for Rs. 100, I am prepared to purchase lands, if Government are willing. As regards the remaining 11 lakhs of acres of land, I understand that it has been decided by Government that they should not be sold until the barrage comes into operation. If $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of acres of land are sold at such a ridiculously low rate, it will affect the sale of the remaining lands. It is not right that the general taxpayer should be made to suffer for the benefit of Sind zamindars. As a matter of fact this presidency has been taxed heavily for the benefit of Sind.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED : Separate us.

Mr. F. J. GINWALLA : That is a question which will be solved in future.

It has been suggested by His Excellency that in order to meet the situation we should have additional taxation. The suggestion was made by the Honourable the Finance Member and the Finance Secretary before the Public Accounts Committee that the only solution for this was the revision of the Meston Settlement. I do agree that this presidency is legitimately entitled to a major portion of the income-tax revenue, being an industrial province. The question I understand has been submitted to the Simon Commission. That will take a long time. Our immediate necessity is how to meet the additional interest charges on the expenditure on the Sukkur Barrage and other works. We have got to provide for additional revenue. Under these circumstances I have been driven to the conclusion that the only solution for this is retrenchment and economy. As regards the suggestion with regard to additional taxation made by His Excellency, it is out of the question, because the presidency has already been highly taxed. The Finance Secretary has admitted that fact. As regards the revision of the Meston Settlement it will take a long time. So, my suggestion is that, as has been done in previous years, we should effect a retrenchment. Last time Government appointed Mr. Sen to examine any possibility of retrenchment in contingent expenses. Thereafter Mr. Shillidy was appointed. These two have been able to effect retrenchment to the extent of 23 lakhs. A further retrenchment to the extent of 30 lakhs was made. In all 53 lakhs have been saved in all the departments as a result of economy and retrenchment. My point is that there is at present great scope for retrenchment in the establishment. A proposal was made before the

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Public Accounts Committee that there should be a cut of 5 per cent. on the salary of all Government servants drawing Rs. 200 and above. It was pointed out by the Finance Secretary that that proposal could not be accepted by Government. I think that sooner or later Government will be compelled to accede to that proposal. The reason for it is this. The cost of living in 1920 was 193 and now it has come down to 148.

For the purpose of increasing our revenue we have to tap the forest revenue. At present the forest revenue is not adequate. Then I wish to draw the attention of the Honourable the Finance Member to the question of housing Government officials. At present this presidency stands to lose 2 lakhs and odd for the purpose of finding out accommodation to Government officials. This question was discussed in the Public Accounts Committee but nothing has been done so far. It has been suggested that 10 per cent. is not quite sufficient to meet the deficit and that the percentage should be increased. Even that point was not agreed to. I hope Government will reconsider the question and see that the rent charges are met by the Government officials concerned.

Regarding the control of expenditure by the local bodies, a suggestion was made by the honourable member Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram that there should be effective control. This suggestion has not been accepted by Government. I want to know what steps they are going to take to achieve this object.

Now, Sir, I come to the head Excise. It was only the day before a note has been placed in our hands that Government now want to go back upon the policy of prohibition on the lame excuse that owing to the policy of rationing and the policy of prohibition of charas in Bombay, Government are losing a legitimate revenue. So far as Khandesh is concerned, it is stated that the Bhil population cannot do without drink and Government should provide it; if Government do not provide drink the Bhils will resort to illicit distillation. For this purpose Government want to go back on the policy of prohibition and open 17 shops which were closed and increase rationing. I stoutly oppose this proposition of Government. As regards charas it is a poison. It may be that Government will be able to get one lakh more of income. That is no reason why people should be poisoned.

Then, I come to another question—the Worli chawls.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Half a minute more.

Mr. GINWALLA: Most of these chawls are empty. If the rent of Worli chawls is reduced from Rs. 5 to Rs. 3, there will be more tenants.

Then as regards education the chief need of this presidency is technical education. It has been shelved and on the top of it education which is already dear has been made dearer. I strongly object to it. (Bell rings).

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind): Sir, in the course of the last few days we have had before us authoritative statements with regard to the financial position of this presidency. We had at first

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the modestly worded statement of the Finance Member that the Government of this presidency had been seriously handicapped in carrying out its administration on account of financial stringency. We had a franker statement from the head of this Government who said two days ago that it was with the severest pruning of the departments, departments whose allotments had already been cut down, that we could merely "carry on" the administration of this presidency. In the report of the Public Accounts Committee, signed among others by the Finance Secretary, we have had the statement that Government were fully alive to the "dangers" of the position. And yet I must compliment the Finance Secretary on, may I say, his robust optimism when, though not stating thus in so many words, he left an impression on the minds of all of us that things were not after all as bad as they had been painted. I think it is high time that every side of this House should face frankly and fearlessly the critical position in which the finances of this presidency have been placed by the gamble of the Development Department and other undertakings. I understand that the report of the Indian Taxation Committee has been under the consideration of Government for some time; I thought an opportunity would be taken by the occurrence of this budget debate to place before this House some idea as to which way the mind of Government worked. And, even now, I believe that the best way out of the situation is to have some kind of formal or informal discussion between the two sides of the House as to what fresh avenues of taxation and what further lines of retrenchment are possible. I am afraid if this is not done the tug of war will continue, Government pulling one way and the representatives of the people the other way, and we shall probably be ten years hence exactly where we are to-day.

Coming to the main feature of the new proposals for the year I must confess that I am in a mood not so much to congratulate the Finance Member as to congratulate the Ministers in charge of the transferred departments. I find that whereas in the Punjab the Ministers are not satisfied with less than nearly one-third of the ordinary revenue for the carrying on of the nation-building departments, in Madras the Ministers in charge of the nation-building departments insist on having as much as 27 per cent. of the ordinary revenue of the presidency, and in the Presidency of Bengal as much as 25 per cent., the accommodative Ministers in charge of the nation-building departments in this presidency are satisfied with only 22·86 per cent. of the ordinary revenue. I understand that the practice in preparing the budget is—I am afraid I may not be in possession of the exact information, and I wish the practice were described for the benefit of the House—but I understand the practice is to take the average expenditure of the various departments for a certain number of years, to note the fresh demands made by all the departments and then to make, as the Finance Secretary says, a strictly arithmetical rationing and thus cut down the demands in each department. If this is in the main the actual practice of preparing the budget, it only means that the average expenditure in the various departments, transferred and reserved, is the main consideration

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in fixing the new grant. If this is so, I cannot see how the allotments for transferred departments can at all substantially increase from year to year. I understand that the Bombay Government is working on the basis of Rule 31 of the Devolution Rules, where it is stated that the transferred half and the reserved half should agree as to how much each side is to get. And what is the result of working on the basis of agreement for the last ten years? We find that the expenditure of the Government of Bombay on nation-building departments has not increased to more than 22 per cent. of the ordinary revenue of the province. Even in this budget we find from Statement III appended to the Budget at page xii, where the figures of expenditure for the various departments, reserved and transferred, for 1928-29 and for the new year 1929-30 have been given, that whereas the reserved departments are to get 21 lakhs extra in the new year, the transferred departments are to receive 1 lakh less than in the previous year. I wish some explanation were forthcoming for this extraordinary fact. Again, noting the new items which are mentioned in Statement F of the Budget at page 253, which will come before us for sanction, I find that out of Rs. 11,24,000 of fresh expenditure that is proposed, the reserved side gets as much as Rs. 6,28,000 and the transferred side only Rs. 4,96,000. Taking again Statement G, which gives the items of new expenditure sanctioned by the Finance Department in the year 1928-29, we find that out of a total of nearly Rs. 42,000, only Rs. 5,500 has been allotted for transferred subjects. I am mentioning these only as a few illustrations of the main complaint which this House has heard all these nine or ten years, that the nation-building departments are not being dealt with as generously, I would say, as fairly, as they are entitled to; and for this, as I said, I must congratulate the Ministers in charge of the transferred departments on their limitless spirit of accommodation. The Ministers have had before them Rule 32 of the Devolution Rules, and I cannot understand why they have not insisted upon the use of that rule. With your permission, Sir, and for the benefit of the House I would read that rule. It runs thus:

"(1) If at any time when proposals are to be framed for the apportionment of funds between reserved and transferred departments, respectively, the Governor is satisfied that there is no hope of agreement within a reasonable time between the Members of his executive Council on the one hand and Ministers on the other as to such apportionment he may, by order in writing, allocate the revenue and balances of the province between reserved and transferred subjects, by specifying the fractional proportions of the revenues and balances which shall be assigned to each class of subject.

"(2) An order of allocation under this rule may be made by the Governor either in accordance with his own discretion, or in accordance with the report of an authority to be appointed by the Governor General in this behalf on the application of the Governor."

I am told that the practice which is followed by the Bombay Government in framing its budgets is that new items are put in three classes, those which are absolutely necessary, those which ought, if possible, to be granted, and those which could wait. It seems that the Ministers have not been able to prove sufficiently the urgency of most of their demands. I will take one illustration from each portfolio and I would

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request the Honourable Minister in charge of the department concerned to explain as to how he thinks that that expenditure is not necessary. I am referring to a recent order of the Education Department, and that order runs thus :—

“ Government have had under consideration for some time past the question whether expenditure on account of the appointment of peons in primary schools should be admitted for the purpose of Government grant to local authorities for primary education. They are now pleased to direct that such expenditure should not be admitted for grant.”

Now, I want to know whether we are living again in those ancient days when some of the ministers were school boys and probably had to, as some of us also probably had to, do the sweeping of the schools themselves. I want to know seriously and I hope I shall not be misunderstood whether it is suggested that the primary schools both in towns and rural areas should have no peons attached to them. Who is to sweep the school? Who is to keep water for the school children and who is to make all the other arrangements which are necessary for a proper running of primary schools? And yet the Honourable the Education Minister finds that this particular item of expenditure is not necessary enough to compel the reserved side to grant additional amount to him so that he may be able to include the salaries of peons among items admissible for grant.

I will take another instance relating to another department. As one of my honourable friends said, the grant for roads has been cut down from 19 to 16 lakhs. Those who are familiar with mofussil roads in certain parts of the Presidency,—and I do not want to show any parochial spirit by mentioning Sind, but I am referring to Sind because I know its conditions best—those who have had the misfortune to travel along the mofussil roads of Sind, will testify to the intolerable condition in which they are at present. Some of the ministers themselves have had the opportunity to judge for themselves. And yet they have agreed to the cutting down of the grant.

Coming to another department, Government spent several years ago about Rs. 30,000 for having a proper drainage for storm water in the headquarter of the Nawabshah District. The present condition of that drainage system is such that practically 75 per cent. of the length of the drains is silted up. There are no drains to speak of and for all practical purposes all the money is wasted. If even a small portion had been budgetted for keeping the drains in repair their original utility could have been restored. I was also surprised that in the new year's budget there was no mention of the proposals which may have been sanctioned by the Government of Bombay with regard to improvements in agriculture. We had the Royal Agricultural Commission here in this country for two years and those of us who have had the misfortune,—as I had,—to go through its voluminous recommendations can best realise the disappointing character of this budget. I find that the Minister of Agriculture (he is unwilling to be called the Minister of Excise) has failed to make any demands in this new budget for the improvement of agriculture. The budget is being arranged at present

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in a happy family way, but I must point out that it is time that the Ministers insisted that certain demands of theirs were absolutely necessary and even if the Honourable the Finance Member's balanced budget became a deficit budget, adequate funds should be earmarked for the nation-building departments. I will not deal further with the dry figures of the budget. But I will refer to a few general questions in the course of the few minutes which remain to me. There are two matters especially with regard to which I would request the Honourable the Leader of the House to make a statement, as brief as he likes, and as non-committal as he likes. One is that there is a general feeling on this side of the House that the time allowed for non-official business is utterly inadequate. There are 30 bills on the agenda; 20 of these are for first or second reading. It is absolutely impossible for non-officials to do their duty to their constituencies in the limited time that is allowed for them. I suggest that the practice of the Legislative Assembly in which the non-official days are substantially.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: How is that relevant?

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: Because money has been allotted in the budget for the Legislative Council expenditure and hence I would urge the Honourable the Leader of the House to follow the practice of the Assembly and to increase the number of days allotted for non-official work in this Council.

The other matter to which I would draw the attention of the Honourable the Leader of the House is this. I had thought after the example set by the President of the Legislative Assembly that some initiative would be taken by somebody with regard to the separation of the Legislative Council office, and the formation of a separate Legislative Council Department on the lines of the Legislative Assembly Department. I do not wish that we should enter into discussion of that question on this occasion. But if it is possible we should be enabled to discuss it during the current session if the Honourable the Leader of the House gives us some time on an official day. But, if not, it may be discussed in the course of the debate on grants. I will refer to one or two other small points before I close. I find from the proposals before the House that a special officer has been appointed to assist the Railway Board in speeding up schemes for railway development in this Presidency. I think most other provinces in India are far ahead of us in this matter. One of the lines which I would urge Government to recommend to the Railway Board would be a direct Bombay-Karachi line, which would be to the mutual benefit of both parts of the Presidency. Another line I would press Government to investigate is from Chhor to Jhudo *via* Amarkote. I believe if this scheme is investigated it will be found that its financial aspect is sufficiently attractive.

A few words, Sir, with regard to the Industries Department. We have had before this a Director almost without an Industries Department. In this year we have had the magnificent sum of a lakh and a half allotted for his work. The Madras Government can spend 23 lakhs, the Bengal Government can spend 13 lakhs, the Punjab Government

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can spend nearly 10 lakhs, but the Bombay Government which claims to be the Government of the most industrial province in India can spend only a lakh and a half. I hope that the promise given by the former Minister that he would see that adequate funds are provided for the development of the Department will be kept and in the near future we shall find that the Industries Department will be one of the most active in the Presidency.

Mr. B. T. DESAI (Bombay City) : Sir, I am glad that even at this late hour I have been able to catch your eye. Well, so far as the budget is concerned one really wonders as to what all these discussions are going to be. Of course 3 days have been allotted to the discussion of it and generally all matters are being discussed, certain suggestions are being made which are entered in the next budget. What is really the utility of these discussions ? Well, if we say that certain things ought to be done for the benefit of the people then perhaps the Secretary of the Finance Department will get up and say " Oh, yes, we have to deal with facts as they are, we have nothing to do with facts as they would be. Well, we are given certain limits by the Government in which we have to shape our budget." Then, Sir, it really comes to this, that these discussions so far as the particular department is concerned are absolutely futile. I do not see their utility. But with a hope that something may be done, I wish to devote a little time to this discussion.

The budget speech made by the Finance Member is really a departure from the budget speeches which were made during the last two years. And he has attempted to testify as to which progress has been made during the last decade. Well, so far, I do not know what his object really is, whether it is to justify the present budget on account of the supposed progress that has been made or in order to acquaint honourable members of this Council with the progress that the Government has made.

Well, Sir, if you look to the progress, I may say generally that, practically speaking, we have made no progress whatsoever. But here and there something is being shown in order to justify the taxation that has been placed before us for passing. First in his budget speech he deals with agriculture. What improvement has been effected so far as agriculture is concerned ? He has tried to show some improvement with regard to cotton, with regard to rice, tobacco, jowari, bajri, etc. But may I remind him and may I also bring to his notice, what is the use of heralding these figures when you do not consider the real state of the ryot, the real state of the agriculturist, who has to take advantage of any improvement that you are going to inaugurate ? The land revenue policy, Sir, is such that it would leave very little, perhaps nothing, to the agriculturist, and you have seen, Sir, also from time to time the complaints that have been made with regard to the Land Revenue Act, which is considered as not a civilised Act, but an Act which not even a barbarous country would ever endorse, where the ryots' interests are not cared for and they are given no support whatsoever, and the Government is quite at liberty to take anything and everything that belongs to the cultivator without going to a court of law, arbitrarily, in any way

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they like, whether a notice has been served or not, whether a particular thing has been done or not. They themselves are the judges, they themselves are the complainants, and they themselves are the prosecutors. In this state of affairs, to talk and say that the position of the agriculturist has been improved is a thing which is an absolute sham, and I think we ought not to believe all this, because we know too well the policy of Government so far as land revenue is concerned. One honourable member said that land revenue should be increased. I think he really shows his ignorance. He does not know that the present land revenue policy is such that it would never admit of any expansion at all; if anything, it is necessary to decrease the land assessment; otherwise we will be forced into a situation which it would not be desirable even to think of.

Well, then, we go to the other progress that has been made, and what is the other department that he takes? Excise, he says. Of course, the Honourable the Finance Member was a Minister having the portfolio of excise, and there certain remarks have been made with regard to the prohibition policy, with regard to reducing the strength of liquor that is supplied. Now, Sir, so far as prohibition is concerned, prohibition by stages is an absolute mirage. I have more than once stated before that it will never come into existence and it will never lead to any good result, because when you reduce your strength, if you have not got total prohibition, people take to cheap foreign liquor; and it has been also admitted in various quarters, and also there was discussion in Ceylon, where it was pointed out that as people could not get proper stuff they had to go to the foreign cheap liquor. So, this policy of reducing the strength of liquor is really putting a premium on the foreign cheap liquor trade instead of prohibition. If you want that there should be prohibition, let there be total prohibition. But I am quite sure that as long as people who are addicted to drink are the people who have a hand in the management of this Government, I do not think total prohibition will ever be attempted seriously by them, though in America we find that the gentleman who advocated the policy of total prohibition got a thumping majority during election over the candidate who advocated the wet policy. Of course, in other countries it is possible; but in India, rather in Bombay presidency, so far as this is concerned, if you do not adopt the policy of total prohibition, I think this policy of reducing strength and so prohibition by instalments is a policy which will never bear fruit or improvement.

Then, Sir, he goes to the Police Department, and he says it is very efficient police and, of course, their strength should be increased and all that. Well, Sir, so far as the police is concerned, I may say that the police has proved itself to be absolutely inefficient. Well, we are not here to go into the causes which lead to the inefficiency, but so far as the recent riots in Bombay were concerned, those who have been eye-witnesses, those who had to suffer from the inefficiency of the police, would surely subscribe to the proposition that I have laid down that the police has proved itself absolutely inefficient, not because the force was inadequate,

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but because the efficiency was not there. Where they were wanted at a particular time, they were not there, and after the whole thing was over, one or two sepoys turned up. I was also informed by several people that, where a riot was going on, the Police Commissioner was telephoned from time to time, and no succour was sent for five hours ; no succour came for several hours. Now, Sir, what do you think of this ? Is it because the police was inadequate ? No ; it was because the people who are at the head of affairs are absolutely inefficient to tackle the problems as they arise. So far as the police are concerned, I would never be a party to any increase in any way, but I would be surely for cutting down the grant to make them feel that it is no easy thing to take a grant from this House, unless they prove sufficiently efficient.

Then, the Honourable the Finance Member has also referred in his speech to the administration of justice. He says there is progress which is to be marked as to how justice is dealt with. Of course, he has referred to magistrates and judges, and all that. He was a legal practitioner once and I am a legal practitioner yet. We know how things are managed so far as the magistracy is concerned. Of course, he has great experience of the mofussil magistracy and I have experience of the Bombay Magistracy and one of our friends, from this House, had the honour of being a presidency magistrate also. Of course, the less said of these magistrates, the better. Of course, what sort of justice is dealt with, those who have occasion to demand justice, those who have to go to the courts for justice they know how they are sent from pillar to post, how time is taken up unnecessarily, how witnesses are taken up, how the magistrates' whims and certain other things prevail. Is this justice for which we should pay at all ? This is the justice that is heralded forth as progress. As regards other things, we are almost all familiar and I need not go into all that.

The next thing referred to is education. Of course, he has given us figures that certain number of schools have been increased. Perhaps the number of students have been slightly increased. But may I know from him what sort of education we are giving at present ? If you had really progressed in giving education, do you think that there would be this popular complaint of ignorance of people, of people being unlettered and extreme ignorance prevailing among them ? Is it not the duty of Government to make primary education compulsory in each and every district, in each and every village ? Why have you not done that. I think perhaps the reason put forth would be that there is no money. Then, I would say you have lakhs and crores of rupees to waste on other projects, but so far as education is concerned, you have got nothing. His Excellency has referred in his speech to education and said that the educational department has to be starved, and if you want to improve education, be prepared for fresh taxation. So far as Government is concerned, we are told that we should not complain of anything that Government does, but when Government wants money, taxation is the only thing they look to. They want us to give them two lakhs in the shape of increased fees. They want us to give our consent to the Stamp Act and the Registration Act and the

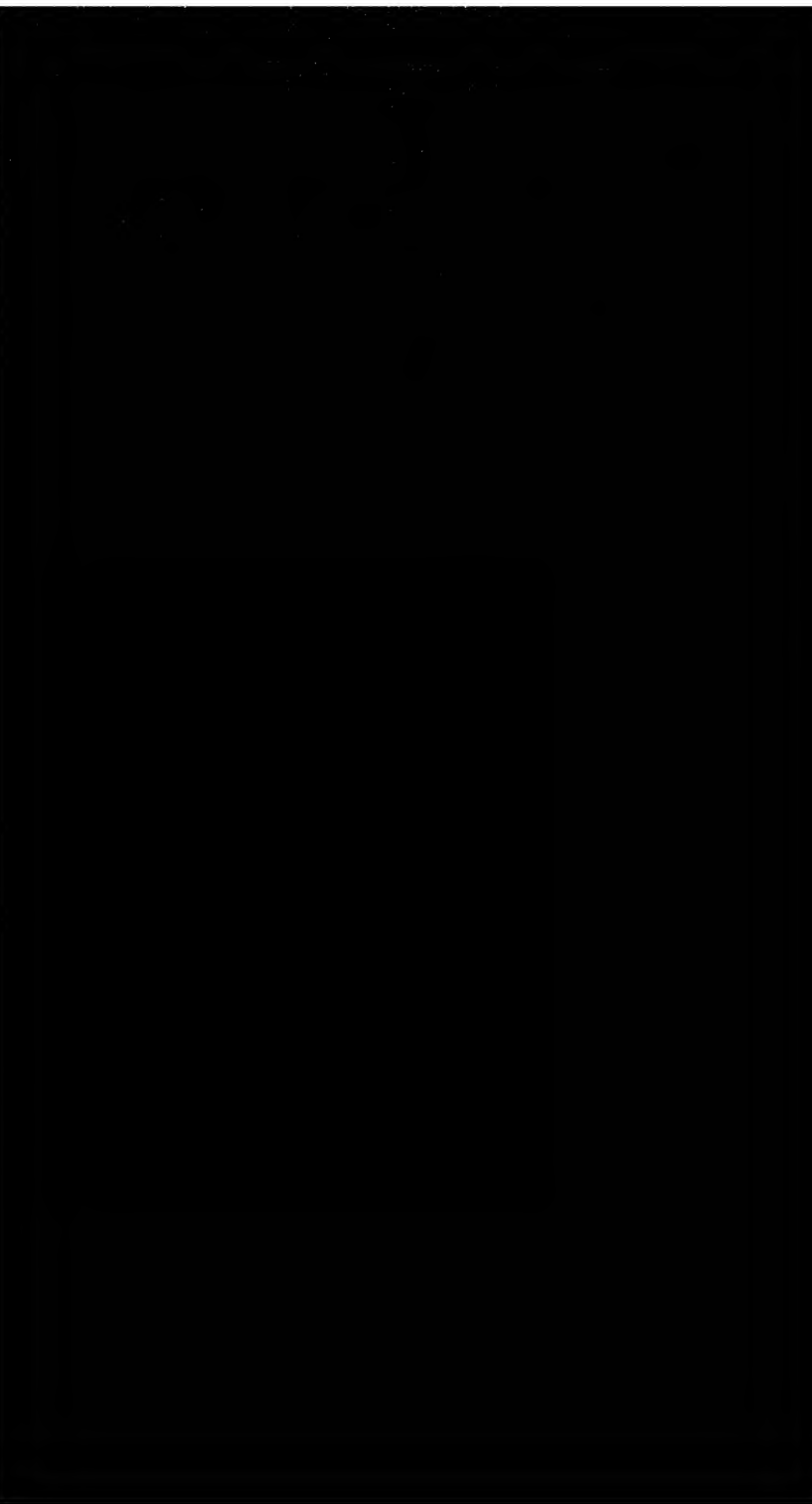
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Court-fees Act being put permanently on the statute book. You will not get this at the hands of those who have the concerns of the people at heart. You will not also get sanction for passing the Stamp or the Registration or the Court-fees Act being put permanently on the statute book. With regard to the Stamp Act and the Court-fees Act, we were told from time to time that they would be extended for one year only each time and now they (Government) are coming forward with the proposal that those two Acts should form part of our permanent laws. We shall never be a party to that and Government must do without this revenue and also the two lakhs. This is the condition of the finances of this presidency and I do not see with what logic the Finance Secretary says that we are not on the verge of bankruptcy or on the brink of insolvency. Because Government has force and Government can tax people, he thinks that Government are a different entity from an individual. I say, no, the capacity of an individual, so far as finance is concerned, is the same as the capacity of Government. If Government think that they can illimitably try to tax the people and collect more money, I think they will be entirely mistaken in their view. There is always a limit. Everybody thinks that the Bombay Presidency has been overtaxed to its utmost limit, and if Government try to tax it more and if you overstep the limits, you will reap the consequences, you will make people rise against you to say the least, because even in your own language you say even the worm turns. Do not think that the people have lost their sense of self-respect, their sense of vigour and that they are absolutely reduced to such plight that they will submit to any taxation however unjustifiable it may be. I think Government will be sorely mistaken if they think that way. There has been a proposition moved by one honourable member that taxation is resisted however justifiable it may be. I say now that no fresh taxation will be justifiable at all. Any fresh taxation will be resisted with all the vigour that we have at our command. After making these things distinct, I say, Sir, that so far as this budget is concerned, it is a very disappointing affair. In the budget, of course, you only read figures and they do not make a very pleasant reading. I say you have made no progress. You have not got a return for the money you have spent. Progress means that for every rupee a taxpayer pays, he must get some return and what return does he get? He gets this return, penury, unemployment and all those things which are now staring him in his face, including fresh taxation. With regard to industries also, they have been neglected. I just ask the honourable member the Finance Secretary, which industry has been encouraged? Have not the Government systematically killed all the industries that were capable of production so far as Indians were concerned? What industry has been kept in our hands that you are now going to assist, let me know. Even the mill industry which is on its last legs has been neglected. How has it been dealt with? Of course, my honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji has always been complaining that we are all suffering from economic thralldom and it is true that as long as that economic thralldom has not been taken away

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from us, our position will not be in any way ameliorated. Everybody knows that the whole of Bombay and the whole of India suffers from trade depression and depression of all kinds, and yet Government quietly talks of new taxation. I ask, how could that be tolerated for a moment. Looking to the position and the attitude of Government as far as industries are concerned, I say, Sir, that there is very little hope for any amelioration to be brought about. Government lay down a particular policy so far as finance is concerned and that has been followed by Government servants as well as the Ministers. My honourable friend Mr. Jairamdas complained about Ministers, but I really feel that instead of complaining about Ministers, we can simply pity them and if we want to get certain things done by the Ministers, it is for us not to support them in their present position and also to try to bring cuts and try to bring votes of censure against them in order that they may behave better in future. That is the only way in which we can make them realise their position. On the whole, I say this budget is absolutely disappointing, and unless Government radically makes changes in every department of its activities, I do not think we could get a budget which is satisfactory. So far as retrenchment is concerned, there has been I think ample scope for retrenchment. There is of course the steel frame incapable of being retrenched and other services capable of being added to and expanded. There is not much to hope for, but notwithstanding all these depressing prospects, the Council should take upon themselves the duty of forcing the hands of Government to agree to their wishes because they have got the power of turning down taxation and turning down grants and if they will properly exercise those rights, I think Government is bound to yield.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The House is adjourned to 1 p.m. to-morrow, Thursday, the 21st February 1929.



Thursday, the 21st February 1929.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, on Thursday, the 21st February 1929, at 1 p.m., the Honourable the President, Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI, Bar-at-Law, presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Khan Saheb
 ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
 AHMAD, the Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 AMIN, Mr. H. J.
 ASAVALE, Mr. R. S.
 BALAK RAM, Mr.
 BHOSLE, Mr. M. G.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 BRANDER, Mr. J. P.
 BROWNE, Mr. D. R. H.
 CHANDRACHUD, Mr. N. B.
 DABHOLKAR, Sir VASANTRAO
 DAWOODKHAN SHALEBHOY, Mr.
 DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
 DESAI, the Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D.,
 DESAI, Mr. J. B.
 DESHPANDE, Mr. L. M.
 DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
 DOW, Mr. H.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Sir
 GILDER, Dr. M. D.
 GINWALLA, Mr. F. J.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOOCH, Mr.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HOTSON, the Honourable Mr. J. E. B.
 ISHAN, Khan Saheb GHULAM MUHAMMAD ABDULLAH KHAN
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM, Mr.
 JANVEKAR, Mr. D. A.
 JITEKAR, Mr. HAJI IBRAHIM HAJI MAHOMED
 JOG, Mr. V. N.
 JONES, Major W. ELLIS
 JOSHI, Mr. S. C.
 KALE, Rao Bahadur R. R.
 KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KNIGHT, Mr. H. F.
 LAIRD-MACGREGOR, Mr. E. G.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.

MACKIE, Mr. A. W. W.
 MACLACHLAN, Mr. D.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MARTIN, Mr. J. R.
 MARZBAN, Mr. P. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUNSHI, Mr. K. M.
 NAIK, Rao Bahadur B. R.
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PATEL, Mr. J. R.
 PATIL, Rao Saheb D. R.
 PETCH, Mr. F. W.
 PRADHAN, the Honourable Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 RAJMAL LAKHICHAND, Mr.
 RIEU, the Honourable Mr. J. L.
 SAKARLAL BALABHAI, Mr.
 SHAIKH ABDUL AZIZ ABDUL LATIF, Mr.
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHETH, Mr. A. D.
 SHROFF, Mr. GHHOTALAL R.
 SMART, Mr. W. W.
 SMYTH, Mr. J. W.
 SOLANKI, Dr. PURUSHOTTAMRAI G.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 SYED MIRAN MUHAMMAD SHAH
 SYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
 SYED, MUNAWAR, Mr.
 THORAT, Sardar S. B.
 THORNER, Mr. J. P.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VANDEKAR, Rao Saheb R. V.
 WASIF, Mr. G. A. D.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WINTERBOTHAM, Mr. G. L.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order. Questions.

NASIK LOCAL BOARD : INQUIRY OFFICER'S REPORT.

Mr. R. S. ASAVALE (Bombay City, North) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the report of the Inquiry Officer regarding the administration of the Nasik District Local Board placed on the Council table last session was a confidential document;

(b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative whether the same was meant for publication in the newspapers at the time it was placed on the Council table ;

(c) whether Government have noticed that practically the whole report has been published by the *Times of India* and whether Government had authorised the paper to publish the report ;

(d) whether Government have also noticed that all other newspapers English and Vernacular have published the report ;

(e) whether Government did consider before such a publication whether the same was likely to prejudice the trial of certain persons mentioned in the report in a criminal Court ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) Yes.

(b) The contents of papers placed on the Council table are public property and Government cannot prevent their publication by the Press.

(c) and (d) Extracts from the report have appeared in the *Times of India* and other newspapers but Government have not authorised any paper to publish the report.

(e). Government are of opinion that the fact that details of the report have become public property is not likely to prejudice the trial of any person any more than the publication of any complaint in a criminal case or a plaint in a Civil Suit.

Mr. R. S. ASAVALE : When the reply to part (a) of the question is 'yes', how is it that it becomes public property ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : It was confidential at the time the enquiries were made and the report was submitted to Government, but as soon as Government decided to place it on the Council table, it ceased to be a confidential document.

Mr. R. S. ASAVALE : When the papers were not authorised to publish the report, how is it that they have published the whole report ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : The papers print many things which are not authorised for publication. The papers very often act as outlaws on ordinary restrictions of society :

KHANDALA PETHA : AMALGAMATION WITH WAI TALUKA.

Dr. P. G. SOLANKI on behalf of Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have received a representation from the villagers of the Khandala Petha, taluka Wai, district Satara, protesting against the amalgamation of the petha with Taluka Wai ;

(b) whether they intend reconsidering the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) Yes.

(b) No.

PRIMARY TEACHERS.

Dr. P. G. SOLANKI on behalf of Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of third year, second year, and first year vernacular final and unpassed teachers in the Presidency at the beginning of the year 1923 ;

(b) the number of the teachers employed before 1923 still in service ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: (a) The accompanying statement gives the requisite information as it stood on 31st March 1923.

(b) There are over 20,000 teachers and the information will have to be collected from 51 local authority municipalities and 27 district local boards. In the opinion of Government therefore the value of the information is not commensurate with the labour involved in collecting it.

Number of primary school teachers in Government, District Local Board and Municipal schools in the Presidency including Sind, as it stood on 31st March 1923.

Third year.	Second year.	First year.	Total trained.	Qualified.	Un-qualified.	Total un-trained.	Grand total of the trained and un-trained teachers.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4,096	3,918	5,821	13,835	7,759	1,242	9,001	22,836	

Mr. SYED MUNAWAR: Is it a great deal of labour to issue a circular calling for the information to all the local boards and municipalities concerned? A single circular would have succeeded in collecting the information which the question seeks to elicit.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: The issuing of the circular does not involve any labour at all, but it is the consequences of the circular that involve the labour.

VILLAGES IN KOYNA VALLEY AND TATA SCHEMES.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE (Satara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any Government officers visited certain villages in the Koyna valley in Patan and Javli talukas in Satara district;

(b) whether the officers made any inquiries regarding the scheme of Messrs. Tata and Sons, Limited;

(c) whether the compensation prices of houses, fruit trees, bamboos, roads, etc., have been ascertained;

(d) whether the officer has ascertained the willingness or otherwise of the inhabitants of the area likely to be merged under water;

(e) whether the total amount of the compensation was arrived at arbitrarily by the officer or whether there was any consultation with the ryots concerned;

(f) whether they intend to give the ryots concerned an opportunity of placing their grievances before they sanction the scheme;

(g) whether the inquiry officer has recommended that a big canal can be started with only a small additional expenditure along with the proposed scheme?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: (a) Yes, an Assistant Engineer together with the Mamlatdars of Patan and Javli visited the villages in the Koyna valley.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes, approximately.

(d) Yes.

(e) The estimates were not made arbitrarily but the selling prices of the crops were ascertained and the estimates were arrived at after consultation with the local officers, Mamlatdars and the people concerned, who seemed satisfied.

(f) Yes.

(g) No. An irrigation scheme in connection with the project has been suggested and is under consideration.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE: As regards (g), the answer is "no". But it is further stated that an irrigation scheme in connection with the project has been suggested and is under consideration. May I know who suggested the irrigation scheme, if not the enquiry officer?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: I want notice of the question.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE: The notice is given. My question is whether the enquiry officer has recommended that a big canal can be started. The answer given is "no". But it is further added that an irrigation scheme has been suggested and is under consideration.

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: Yes, by some other officer.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE: Not by the enquiry officer, but by some other officer who has not enquired into the matter?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: Yes.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE: As regards (f), will Government give an opportunity to the ryots after the scheme has been approved of or before it is approved of by Government?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: The answer to (f) is "yes".

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE: Before the final approval of Government?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: Yes. That is the reply already given.

HOSPITAL POSTS : ADVERTISEMENT.

Dr. M. D. GILDER (Bombay City, North): Will the Honourable the Minister of Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the posts of Surgeon Superintendent of the Gokuldas Tejpal Hospital, Bombay, and of the First Physician of the Cama Hospital, Bombay, have been filled after inviting applications by advertisement;

(b) in what papers was each post advertised and for how many insertions?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) Yes.
(b)

Post.	Names of the newspapers in which the post was advertised.	Number of insertions.
Superintendent, Gokuldas Tejpal Hospital, Bombay.	The "Times of India" The "Bombay Chronicle."	} Three insertions.
Medical Officer in charge Cama and Albless Hospitals, Bombay.	The "Times of India," Bombay The "Bombay Chronicle," Bombay The "Statesman," Calcutta The "Englishman," Calcutta The "Pioneer," Allahabad The "Madras Mail," Madras The "Lancet," London The "British Medical Journal," London	

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN : Will the Honourable Minister kindly inform this House why the first post was not advertised as it was done in the second case ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Which first post ?

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN : The second post of Medical Officer in charge Cama and Albless Hospitals was advertised in so many papers, but the first post was advertised in only two papers. Why this difference ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : If the honourable member will kindly give me notice, I will give him the information.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN : Why was not the post advertised in papers having a circulation amongst the Indian reading public ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : The Indian reading public generally reads English papers also. It was thought at that time that generally professional men read the newspapers mentioned, and therefore it was advertised in those papers. But if the honourable member wishes a change, we will do so next time.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Why do you go so far as London in order to advertise for these posts ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : To get a wider field for selection. If we could get an Englishman with good degrees from London, there is no objection to engage him.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Was an Englishman appointed there ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : No. The selection is in our hands. Why not give an opportunity to doctors from all parts ?

Dr. M. K. DIXIT : How many applications were there for the post ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : If the honourable member gives notice, I will find that out.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: Are Government aware that in Madras and Calcutta the "Hindu" and the "Forward" have a wider circulation amongst Indians than the "Madras Mail" and the "Englishman"?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: I am not aware of it.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: Who guided Government with regard to the selection of these two newspapers from Calcutta and Madras?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: The department.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Why was not the first post advertised and why was the second post alone advertised? Why was a distinction made?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: If the honourable member gives notice, I will find it out for him.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Was a lady doctor appointed for the second post of a male doctor?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: A lady doctor.

EXCISE OFFICIALS, GADRO.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases filed by the Excise Department against persons belonging to the town of Gadro in Thar Parkar District for offences against the excise law during the current year up to 1st November 1928;

(b) how many of these cases were proved to be false;

(c) whether Government are aware that the people of Gadro have complained to the Commissioner in Sind against the local excise officials and have alleged that the inhabitants of Gadro are being needlessly harassed by the Excise officials;

(d) whether it is a fact that one of the leading local preachers against the use of all intoxicants has been prosecuted by the Excise Department for alleged illegal possession of opium?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Three.

(b) None up to the date mentioned in clause (a) of the question.

(c) Yes.

(d) No.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: Whether since the date mentioned in clause (a) any case has been proved to be false?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: No.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: With regard to answer to clause (d) whether any local preacher was prosecuted for any other offence?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The reply is there that he was not prosecuted for alleged possession of opium.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: Was he prosecuted for any other offence?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : If notice is given I shall find it out.

CROPS, NAGAR-PARKAR TALUKA.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in several parts of the Nagar-Parkar taluka of Thar Parkar district there has been a very poor crop during the current year (1928) ;

(b) what Government propose to do in that respect ;

(c) whether the Collector of the district has recommended the grant of remission ;

(d) whether Government have asked the Commissioner to make a report on the condition of crops in the Parkar section of the taluka ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) In some parts of the taluka the kharif crops failed owing to the unfavourable monsoon, and the average outturn was four annas.

(b) and (c) The Collector is competent to sanction remissions in the desert division if the general nature of the calamity and the condition of the people demand such action. The Collector has taken action accordingly.

(d) No.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : What is the nature of the action taken by the Collector ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I have no report as to this.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Will Government send for the detailed report ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Not until some special reason arises for it. The matter is entirely within the competence of the local officers.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION : INDUS RIGHT BANK.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to open a research station on the Right Bank of the Indus ;

(b) at what place the new research station will be located ;

(c) the proposals with regard to the staff for research work at this station ;

(d) whether Government propose to appoint the best qualified Indian to be in charge of the station ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) No such proposal is at present under the consideration of Government.

(b), (c) and (d) Do not arise.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Do Government regard the establishment of such a research station necessary ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I think such a station is necessary but under the financial stringency at present nothing can be done.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Will it form part of the burden on the barrage or on the ordinary revenues ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : According to my opinion it ought to come from the Barrage estimates. At present we have to budget for the current expenses of the Sakrand farm from the general revenues.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : When will Government decide this question ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : It is under consideration.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : (Asked a question which was inaudible).

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Some are and some are not.

TAPEDARS : PROMOTIONS.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of tapedars in Naushahro Division of the Nawabshah District ;

(b) the names of those who were put on the list of tapedars in the division eligible for the post of Supervising Tapedars and were brought on the selection grade since 1923 ;

(c) the names of the tapedars in the selection grade who were promoted between January 1923 and March 1928 to the post of permanent Supervising Tapedars in preference to others who were on the selection grade before them and the names of those others ;

(d) the reason why each of the latter was not promoted in the order of priority on the list ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) 58 inclusive of 6 relieving tapedars.

(b) 1. Mr. Teckchand Jethanand.

2. „ Ubedullah Allahbux.

3. „ Muhammad Usif Sahibdino.

4. „ Assuram Santdas.

5. „ Lalbakhsh Dilawarkhan.

6. „ Chetandas Pursumal.

7. „ Muhammad Hashim Abdul Satar.

8. „ Tillumal Thakurdas.

9. „ Pohumal Chattumal.

10. „ Lahorimal Hotchand.

Note.—The name of Mr. Assuram (serial No. 4) has since been removed from the approved list as his work as acting supervising tapedar was found to be unsatisfactory by two Deputy Collectors.

(c) Mr. Muhammad Usif (serial No. 3) was promoted in 1924 in preference to Messrs. Teckchand (serial No. 1) and Ubedullah (serial No. 2).

Mr. Lalbakhsh (serial No. 5) was promoted in 1926 in preference to Messrs. Teckchand (serial No. 1), Ubedullah (serial No. 2) and Assuram (serial No. 4).

(d) Promotion to the grade of Supervising Tapedars is regulated by selection of the best qualified men and not merely by seniority.

**VOTERS : LOCAL BOARDS AND COUNCIL ELECTIONS ;
THAR PARKAR DISTRICT.**

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of voters on the roll for taluka local board, district local board and legislative Council elections (separately) for each of the talukas of Umarkote, Nagar Parkar, Chachhro and Mithi of Thar Parkar District and the total population of each of the above talukas ;

(b) what proportion each of the above class of voters in each taluka bears to the total population of the taluka ;

(c) what proportion each of the above class of voters for the whole of Sind bears to the total population of Sind.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: (a) and (b) The information required by the honourable member is given in the statement laid on the Council table.

(c) The proportion of the total number of voters for the Legislative Council elections for the whole of Sind to the total population of Sind is .038. Government do not think that the value of the information regarding the proportion of the total number of voters for local board elections to the population of Sind would be commensurate with the trouble and labour involved in obtaining it.

Statement.

Taluka.	Popu- lation.	Total number of voters for taluka local board elections.	Total number of voters for district local board election.	Total number of voters for the Legis- lative Council election.	Per- centage of figures in column 2 to figures in column 1.	Per- centage of figures in column 3 to figures in column 1.	Per- centage of figures in column 4 to figures in column 1.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Umerkot ..	45,147	1,159	554	1,021	2.6	1.2	2.26
Nagar Parkar ..	40,669	1,709	41	83	4.20	0.10	.20
Chachhro ..	50,886	2,862	90	212	5.68	0.18	.42
Mithi ..	40,886	1,225	55	136	3.00	0.13	.38

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT CLERKS : INDUS LEFT AND RIGHT
BANK DIVISIONS.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : With reference to the reply to part (d) of my question relating to lien of Public Works Department officers printed at page 413, Volume XXIV of the Bombay Legislative Council Debates, will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the cadres of the clerks of the Public Works Department are not separate for the Indus Left Bank Division and the Indus Right Bank Division ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : Yes. The permanent clerical establishment for the whole of the ordinary Sind Public Works Department is on one cadre.

BARRAGE PROJECT : ESTIMATED INCOME.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state—

• (a) whether it is a fact that the income side of the Barrage Project was re-examined subsequent to the publication of Mr. Musto's report on the subject in 1919-20 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a fresh preparation of the estimates of the income from the Barrage has been undertaken ;

(c) whether they will place on the Council table copies of both these estimates with full details.

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) A copy of Government letter No. 880-A, dated 19th/20th February 1923, in which the financial forecast of the project was revised subsequent to the submission of the Sukkur Barrage and Canals Project, 1919-20, is placed on the Council table. The forecast referred to in the reply to clause (b) is not yet ready.

Sukkur Barrage Scheme.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

No. 880-A, dated 19th/20th February 1923.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, Delhi.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Government's letter No. D. 223, dated the 19th October 1922 in which proposals were submitted for financing the Sukkur Barrage project on a basis of land sales. I am to say that the situation has now been further examined by the Honourable Mr. Baker on special duty, and in the light of the further information I am to submit the attached statements, which show that the returns worked out in the ordinary form used by the Public Works Department will make the scheme productive in the 13th year ; while in the 10th year after completion the scheme is shown to pay 10·4 per cent.

2. I am to explain that the land now shown to be available, after a fairly accurate survey of the Eastern Nara area of which no account was taken in this Government's letter of last October, is as noted below :—

					In thousands of acres.
Perennial area	..	..	{ A	..	8,50
			{ B	..	5,07
Rice area	..	..	{ A and B	..	68
			{ C	..	72
					<hr/> 14,97

The above is exclusive of land deducted for roads, canals and villages.

Close inquiry has been directed to the important points of the prices which may be expected from auction sales and the areas which it is considered safe to put on the market each year with due regard to the period after which water will be available; and the Governor in Council can confidently recommend the present estimates as erring on the conservative side. I am to emphasise the fact that so large an area as 350,000 acres has now been reserved for disposal under the ancient system of malkano or occupancy grants at comparatively low rates to existing occupants. While there is no intention to bind Government in any way to reserve so large an area of valuable land for grants at far below the market value, it is desirable for political and other reasons, and also because inquiry shows that there are certain small blocks of land which cannot conveniently be auctioned to the general public, to reserve a maximum for disposal on these lines, especially in the earlier years. Cultivation in Sind now averages 1 acre per head of population. With a population of about 2 million in this area, the absorption of another 8 lakhs of acres, or a 40 per cent. increase per head, in 13 years is a not unreasonable expectation. An average of $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres per head has been surpassed in several talukas in Sind, especially under the perennial Jamrao canal.

3. Lastly, I am to remark that, while making the usual reduction of 10 per cent. from the gross revenue expected, and retaining the full estimate of cost suggested by the Government of India when prices of steel and iron were extremely high, these are both heads under which considerable savings may be estimated, but the Governor in Council prefers to present the scheme on accepted lines without changing a single figure unnecessarily.

4. As regards total capital required, it will of course be recognised that the sum total of the capital shown in these statements will not have to be borrowed; and as receipts from land sales are credited, the capital thus acquired by the Bombay Government will be used to reduce their borrowing programme. This, in fact, is the only method under the present system of uninvested balances of Provincial revenues whereby a Provincial Government can earn interest on the proceeds of land sales, as shown in the statements attached.

5. Lastly, I am to add that an advance copy of this letter and statements has been sent direct by this mail to the Secretary of State, to whom also a full printed note dealing with the technical objections taken to the scheme has been forwarded; and I am to suggest that in view of the fact that, as this Government has now successfully met all possible objections both on financial and technical side, a cable may be sent to the Secretary of State as soon as these statements have been examined, conveying the approval of the Government of India, and pressing for immediate sanction to the project.

I have, etc.,

P. J. MEAD,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Finance Department.

Statement showing area of land to be sold each year

Statement showing area of land

Year	A Lands and Rice Lands	Rate per acre	Proceeds (Lakhs)	B Lands
	Acres		Rs.	Acres
<i>Preliminary</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	....	....	<i>Nil.</i>
1	<i>Nil.</i>	....	....	<i>Nil.</i>
2	10,000	100	10	1,000
3	20,000	115	23	2,000
4	20,000	127	25·4	2,000
5	25,000	140	35	2,500
<i>Irrigation begins</i>				
6	35,000	150	52·5	3,500
7	40,000	150	60	4,000
8	40,000	150	60	4,000
9	45,000	150	67·5	4,500
10	45,000	150	67·5	4,500
<i>All works completed</i>				
11 Rice	{ 40,000 10,000	{ 150 250	{ 60 25	{ 5,000
12 Rice	{ 40,000 10,000	{ 150 250	{ 60 25	{ 5,000
13 Rice	{ 40,000 10,000	{ 150 250	{ 60 25	{ 5,000
14 Rice	{ 45,000 10,000	{ 150 250	{ 67·5 25	{ 5,500
15 Rice	{ 50,000 10,000	{ 150 250	{ 75 25	{ 6,000
16 Rice	{ 50,000 10,000	{ 150 250	{ 75 25	{ 6,000
17	<i>Nil.</i>	....	....	65,000
18	"	....	....	60,000
19	"	....	....	55,000
20	"	....	....	55,000
21	"	....	....	55,000
22	"	....	....	50,000
23	"	....	....	45,000
24	"	....	....	40,000
25	"	....	....	35,000
26	"	....	....	<i>Nil.</i>
Totals	605,000	....	948·4	520,500

to be sold each year.

Rate per acre	Proceeds (Lakhs)	Malkano at Rs. 15 per acre	Proceeds (Lakhs)	Total Proceeds (Lakhs)	Total area disposed of in year
	Rs.	Acres	Rs.	Rs.	
....	....	<i>Nil.</i>	....	....	<i>Nil.</i>
....	....	<i>Nil.</i>	....	....	<i>Nil.</i>
30	30	10,000	1.5	11.8	21,000
35	70	20,000	3.0	26.7	42,000
40	80	20,000	3.0	29.2	42,000
45	1.12	30,000	4.5	40.82	57,500
50	1.75	30,000	4.5	58.73	68,500
50	3.0	30,000	4.5	66.5	74,000
50	3.0	30,000	4.5	66.5	74,000
50	2.25	30,000	4.5	74.25	70,500
50	2.25	30,000	4.5	74.25	79,500
50	2.5	30,000	4.5	92.0	85,000
50	2.5	30,000	4.5	92.0	85,000
50	2.5	30,000	4.5	92.0	85,000
50	2.75	30,000	4.5	99.75	90,500
50	3.0	....	....	103	66,000
50	3.0	....	....	103	66,000
50	32.5	....	....	32.5	65,000
50	30.0	....	....	30	60,000
50	27.5	....	....	27.5	55,000
50	27.5	....	....	27.5	55,000
50	27.5	....	....	27.5	55,000
50	25	....	....	25	50,000
50	22.5	....	....	22.5	45,000
50	20	....	....	20	40,000
50	17.5	....	....	17.5	35,000
....	....	<i>Nil.</i>	....	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>
....	259.42	350,000	52.5	1,260.32	1,475,500

P. J. MEAD,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Statement showing net

Year	Direct Receipts 9/10th of gross	Famine Fund contribution	6 per cent. interest on value of land sold, see col. 12	Total Revenue cols. 2 + 3 + 4	Charges Direct and Indirect
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Preliminary ..	....	10	....	10	....
1 ..	....	10	....	10	....
2 ..	....	10	0'7	10'7	....
3 ..	....	10	2'3	12'3	....
4 ..	....	10	4'1	14'1	....
5 ..	* Present.	10	6'5	16'5	....
6 ..	55'4	10	10	20 0	* Present 19'5
7 ..	88'1	10	14	112'1	26'1
8 ..	97'5	10	18	125'5	28'1
9 ..	104'3	10	22'5	136'8	30'1
10 ..	120'4	10	26'9	57'3	32'9
11 ..	140'1	10	32'8	182'9	37'4
12 ..	149'3	10	38	107'3	38'8
13 ..	153'0	10	43'5	206'5	39'3
14 ..	156'7	10	49'4	216'1	40'9
15 ..	180'5	10	55'6	226'1	41'9
16 ..	164'3	10	61'8	236'1	42'8
17 ..	179'6	10	63'8	253'4	43'8
18 ..	183'1	10	65'7	258'8	44'4
19 ..	187'9	10	67'2	265'1	45'1
20 ..	192'9	10	68'8	271'7	45'8
21 ..	202'8	....	70'5	273'3	46'4
22 ..	206'8	....	72'0	278'8	47'2
23 ..	209'0	....	73'4	282'4	47'9
24 ..	213'4	....	74'6	288'0	48'7
25 ..	216'6	....	75'7	292'3	49'5
26 ..	219'8	....	75'7	295'5	50'3
27 ..	228'4	....	75'7	304'1	51'2
28 ..	233'5	....	75'7	309'2	52'3
29 ..	240'0	....	75'7	315'7	53'4
30 ..	248'1	....	75'7	323'8	54'6
31 ..	255'3	....	75'7	331'0	55'8
40 ..	293 4	....	75'7	369'1	65'2

* Present.

Revenue from all sources

Net Revenue due to works including Famine Fund contribution			Realization from land sales	Progressive total of land sales	Interest at 6 per cent. per annum on col. 11
Col. 5 minus col. 8	Deduct present net revenue	Impts. and F. F. contri- bution	10	11	12
7	8	9			
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
10	10	....	....	....
10	10	....	....	....
10'7	10'7	11'8	11'8	0'7
12'3	12'3	26'7	38'5	2'3
14'1	14'1	29'2	67'7	4'1
16'5	16'5	40'6	108'3	6'5
20'0	* 35'8	20 0	58'8	167'1	10
* 86'0	50'2	66'5	233'6	14
97'4	61'6	66'5	300'1	18
106'7	70'9	74'2	374'3	22'5
124'4	88'6	74'3	448'6	26'9
145'5	109'7	92	540'6	32'8
158'5	122'7	92	632'6	38
166'7	130'9	92	724'6	43'5
175'2	139'4	99'7	824'3	49'
184'2	148'4	103	927'3	55'6
193'3	157'5	103	1,030'3	61'8
209'6	173'8	32'5	1,062'8	63'8
214'4	178'6	30	1,092'8	65'7
220'0	184'2	27'5	1,120'3	67'2
225'9	190'1	27'5	1,147'8	68'8
226'9	191'1	27'5	1,175'3	70'5
231'6	195'8	25	1,200'3	72'0
234'5	198'7	22'5	1,222'8	73'4
239'3	203'5	20	1,242'8	74'6
242'8	207'0	17'5	1,260'3	75'7
245'2	209'4	....	1,260'3	75'7
252'9	217'1	....	....	....
256'9	221'1	....	....	....
262'3	226'5	....	....	....
269'2	233'4	....	....	....
275'2	239'4	....	....	....
303'9	268'1	....	....	....

P. J. MRAD.

Chief Secretary to Government.

FINANCIAL

Estimate of net financial results up to the year

(All figures in

Years		Direct Outlay during year	Direct Capital outlay to end of year	Simple Interest at 6 per cent. on outlay to end of previous year plus $\frac{1}{2}$ outlay during the year	Net Revenue due to Improvements, column 9, Statement III
1		2	3	4	5
Preliminary	..	125.8	125.8	3.8	10
1	..	268.1	393.9	15.6	10
2	..	191.7	585.6	29.4	10.7
3	..	207.2	792.8	41.4	12.3
4	..	238.5	1,031.3	54.7	14.1
5	..	194.8	1,226.1	67.7	16.5
6	..	132.6	1,358.7	77.5	26.0
7	..	137.6	1,496.3	85.6	50.2
8	..	137.9	1,634.3	98.9	61.6
9	..	102.6	1,736.9	101.1	70.9
10	..	57.9	1,794.8	106.0	88.6
11	..	2.8	1,797.6	107.8	109.7
12	..	—15.3	1,782.3	107.4	132.7
13	..	NUL.	1,782.3	106.9	130.9
14	..	....	....	106.9	139.4
15	..	....	....	106.9	148.4
16	..	....	....	106.9	157.5
17	..	....	....	106.9	173.8
18	..	....	....	106.9	178.6
19	..	....	....	106.9	184.2
20	..	....	....	106.9	190.1
21	..	....	....	106.9	191.1
22	..	....	....	106.9	195.8
23	..	....	....	106.9	198.7
24	..	....	....	106.9	203.5
25	..	....	....	106.9	207.0
26	..	....	....	106.9	209.4
27	..	....	....	106.9	217.1
28	..	....	....	106.9	221.1
29	..	....	....	106.9	226.5
30	..	....	....	106.9	233.4
31	..	....	....	106.9	239.4
40 and thereafter	..	....	....	106.9	268.1

STATEMENT.

when the work becomes productive.

lakhs of rupees).

Simple Interest less net Revenue	Net Revenue simple interest	Accumulated arrears of simple interest	Total Capital invested = 3 plus indirect outlay 53'4 lakhs plus column 8	Return on total Capital invested, i.e., column 5 × 100	Remarks
6	7	8	9	10	11
..	6'2	....	....	....
5'6	..	....	....	....
18'7	..	....	....	....
29'1	..	....	....	....
40'6	..	....	....	....
51'2	..	....	....	....
57'8	..	....	....	....
38'4	..	....	....	....
32'3	..	....	....	....
30'2	..	....	....	....
17'4	..	....	....	....
318'0	1'9	....	....	....	All works complete.
23'4	15'3	....	....	....
294'6	23'4	....	....	....
..	24'0	294'6	2,130'3	6'13 per cent.	Work becomes "Productive."
..	32'5	270'6	2,106'3	6'62 "	
..	41'5	238'1	2,073'8	7'17 "	
..	50'6	196'6	2,032'3	7'76 "	
..	66'9	146'0	1,981'7	8'75 "	
..	71'7	79'1	1,914'8	9'32 "	
..	77'3	7'4	1,843'1	10 "	
..	83'2	Nd.	1,835'7	10'37 "	All arrears of interest wiped out in 9th year after completion.
..	84'2	....	1,835'7	10'4 "	10 years after completion.
..	..	....	1,835'7	10'67 "	
..	..	....	1,835'7	10'82 "	
..	..	....	1,835'7	11'1 "	
..	..	....	1,835'7	11'3 "	
..	..	....	1,835'7	11'4 "	
..	..	....	1,835'7	11'8 "	
..	..	....	1,835'7	12'05 "	
..	..	....	1,835'7	12'3 "	
..	..	....	1,835'7	12'7 "	
..	..	....	1,835'7	13 "	20 years after completion.
..	..	....	1,835'7	14'6 "	Final return on Capital of 1,835'7 lakhs

P. J. MEAD,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Statement showing Capital required to be borrowed each year.

(All figures in lakhs of rupees.)

Year	Capital required each year to meet expenditure direct and indirect on works	To meet interest charges not met from Revenue	Total Capital required in each year	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
Preliminary	128.4	—2.3	126.1	..
1	273.1	14.0	287.1	..
2	197.4	25.9	223.3	..
3	214.3	38.7	253.0	..
4	245.0	54.0	299.0	..
5	201.3	66.9	268.2	..
6	137.7	75.7	213.4	..
7	142.1	58.6	200.7	..
8	142.9	59.2	202.1	..
9	105.3	59.6	164.9	..
10	60.0	49.4	109.4	..
11	3.4	31.3	34.7	..
12	—15.3	19.3	4.0	..
13	....	12.3	12.3	..
14	....	4.5	4.5	..
15	....	Nil.	Nil.	..
Total ..	1,835.7	567.1	2,402.8	..

P. J. MEAD,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: Since when have Government been considering the question of the revised estimates?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: I cannot give you the exact date.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: Roughly, will it be 3 or 4 years?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: May be.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: When will the revised estimates be ready?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: I cannot give the exact date.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: Is it likely to be ready before the July session of the Council?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: We are trying to get it ready as early as possible.

Rao Sahab D. P. DESAI: I wish to draw the attention of the Honourable the General Member to page 12. According to his opinion and the opinion of the executive engineer and chief engineer, irrigation is to begin on the 6th year. Now, when is it likely to begin?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: About June 1932.

Rao Sahab D. P. DESAI : When are all works likely to be completed ? In the schedule submitted by Mr. Mead, it was stated that in the 11th year from the commencement all works would be completed.

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : About the end of the 11th year, that is, about the end of 1934.

LAND HOLDINGS : AREA.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state the average area of holdings in each of the divisions of the Province of Bombay ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : The average area of a holding in each of the Divisions of the Presidency is as follows :—

Division.	Average area of a holding.
Sind .. ..	.. 38·7 acres.
Northern Division ..	.. 8·2 „
Central Division ..	.. 14·5 „
Southern Division ..	.. 12·8 „
Bombay Suburban Division ..	.. 3·9 „

UNALIENATED LANDS : RESTRICTED TENURE.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state the area of unalienated land in each division of the Province of Bombay which is under restricted tenure ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : The Honourable member is referred to Appendices III and IV to the Land Revenue Administration Report of the Presidency proper and of Sind, respectively, for the year 1926-27. A copy of the report is to be found in the Council Library.

BARRAGE LAND SALES.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the question of appointing a committee to deal with the question of the sale of the Barrage lands is under their consideration ;

(b) who under the present arrangements is to be the final judge as to whether the prices offered in auctions of the Barrage lands are adequate and who will finally sanction auction sales ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) No.

(b) The Revenue Officer acting under the general orders of Government and of the Commissioner in Sind.

Mr. F. J. GINWALLA : Will the honourable member state why Government do not propose to appoint a committee to deal with the question of sale ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Because they do not consider it proper to do so.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Have any upset prices been fixed for the auction sale ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : That is a matter for the Revenue Officer to decide according to the circumstances of each case.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Which are the general orders referred to in part (b) of the answer ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : These orders may issue from time to time. Certain orders have already been issued.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : How many such orders have been issued ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I cannot say. A particular order might contain a number of instructions, I have not counted them.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Has any sale taken place recently ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Yes.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Will Government place on the council table the general orders issued by them with regard to the sale of the land ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : A press note will shortly be issued indicating the general terms and principles on which the sales will be made.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Have Government any objection to place on the Council table the exact resolutions issued ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I cannot say at the moment. I shall consider the question as it arises and when it is submitted to me.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : What is the amount realised during the recent sale ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : 1½ lakhs.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT : What is the average price per acre ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : About Rs. 120 per acre, but I shall make a statement in the course of the afternoon on the subject.

G.D.C.A. DIPLOMA.

Mr. S. C. JOSHI : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what the conditions precedent to the award of the G.D.C.A. diploma are ;

(b) whether it is a public or departmental examination ;

(c) whether it is a fact that one of the conditions for the award of the diploma is that the candidate shall be required to prove that he has, for the period of three years (in case of a graduate), served under an auditor in the Co-operative Department to the satisfaction of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies ;

(d) if so, what steps Government have taken to facilitate and encourage the holder of G.D.C.A. certificate to put in the necessary period of articles under an auditor serving in the Co-operative Department to qualify for the diploma ;

(e) whether there is any course left open for the holders of G.D.C.A. certificate other than to serve under an auditor in the Co-operative Department to qualify themselves for the diploma ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a), (b) and (c) A copy of the Regulations for the award of the Government Diploma in Co-operative Accountancy is placed on the Council Table.

(d) Persons employed in the Co-operative Department, who pass the G.D.C.A. examination, have the opportunity of serving under an auditor in order to qualify themselves for the Diploma. Candidates from outside are taken up in the Department and are allowed to get the Diploma if there are vacancies in the Department and they fulfill the prescribed requirements in respect to age, caste, etc.

(e) No.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Secretariat, Fort, Bombay, 8th February 1921.

No. 357.—The following regulations for the award of Government Diploma in Co-operative Accountancy are published for general information :—

REGULATIONS FOR THE AWARD OF THE GOVERNMENT DIPLOMA IN CO-OPERATIVE ACCOUNTANCY, EMBODYING THE AMENDMENTS SUGGESTED BY THE REGISTRAR OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

1. The Government Diploma in Co-operative Accountancy will be awarded by the Government of Bombay, on the recommendation of the Accountancy Diploma Board, to a candidate who has proved to the satisfaction of that Board—

First.—That he has passed the special examination for this Diploma in accordance with the Regulations laid down in paragraphs 2 to 11, or in the case of a candidate who has passed the examination prescribed for the Degree of Bachelor of Commerce of the University of Bombay with advanced Accountancy and Auditing as his special subject that he has passed in the two papers on the subject of Co-operation set at the special examination for the Diploma.

Secondly.—That he has received adequate practical training in accounts as prescribed in Regulation No. 12.

Thirdly.—That he bears a good moral character, and has attained the age of 23.

N.B.—Candidates who have passed the examination prescribed for the Government Diploma in Accountancy of the Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics, Bombay, will be exempted from the examination in the subjects in which they have already passed, but will be required to pass in the two papers on co-operation and to undergo practical training for a period of three years as prescribed by Regulation No. 12.

"Holders of this Diploma will be styled 'Government Diplomates' in Co-operative Accountancy (G. D. C. A.)."

EXAMINATION FOR THE GOVERNMENT DIPLOMA IN CO-OPERATIVE ACCOUNTANCY.

2. The examination for the Government Diploma in Co-operative Accountancy will be held in Bombay simultaneously with the examination for the Government Diploma in Accountancy of the Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics, Bombay, commencing on such day in March or April every year as may be specified in January of that year.

3. Applications for admission to this examination must reach the Secretary to the Accountancy Diploma Board, Bombay, before the 31st January immediately preceding the date of the examination with a fee of Rs. 50 per candidate, and, in the case of Bachelors of Commerce who wish to appear for the two papers on Co-operation only with a fee of Rs. 20 per candidate.

4. A candidate for admission to this examination must have passed the Matriculation Examination of an Indian University or the School Final Examination conducted by a Local Government or any other examination which, in the opinion of the Accountancy Diploma Board, is equivalent to these, and, subject to Regulation 5, must produce a certificate in the prescribed form from the head of an institution recognized by the Accountancy Diploma Board that he has, subsequent to passing such an examination, studied for a period of two academic years at such an institution and is fit to present himself for the examination, provided that no such certificate shall be required from a graduate of one of the Universities of India or of the United Kingdom.

5. A candidate who produces a certificate from the Registrar of Co-operative Societies that he has, subsequent to passing the Matriculation or an equivalent examination as defined in Regulation 4, been employed in his Department on Accountancy and Audit work for a period of two years shall be eligible to appear for this Diploma Examination without being required to produce a certificate of attendance at a recognized institution.

6. Candidates for this examination will be examined in the following subjects:—

A. Accountancy and Auditing.

- (1) The principles and practice of book-keeping and accounts including a knowledge of the systems of accounts in use in different classes of business.
- (2) Auditing.

Books* recommended:—

L. R. Dicksee's Advanced Accounting.
 Spicer and Pegler's Book-keeping and Accounts.
 L. R. Dicksee's Auditing.
 Spicer and Pegler's Practical Auditing.
 Dr. A. E. Sprague's Insurance Companies' Accounts.
 J. J. McLaughlan's Book-keeping of a Life Office.

* These books are named as helpful to the students, but are not prescribed as obligatory.

B. Mercantile Law.

The Indian Law relating to contracts and arbitration and the main provisions of the Indian Stamp and Limitation Acts relating to the above.

- (1) For Regulation 6 (c) the following should be substituted:—

C. Co-operation.

Act II of 1912, with the Rules under it issued by the Local Government.

The Bombay Co-operative Manual.

The Report of the Committee on Co-operation, 1915.

Co-operative Banking by Wolff.

People's Banks by Wolff.

Law and Principles of Co-operation in India by Calvert.

Elements of Banking by Macleod.

Co-operation at Home and Abroad by C. R. Fay.

Impressions of the Co-operative movement in France and Italy by Otto Rothfeld.

An Introduction to Co-operation in India by C. F. Strickland.

Co-operation in Germany and Italy by M. L. Darling.

The Co-operative Credit Movement in India by Mukharji.

The Country Banker by George Rae.

7. (a) Three papers of three hours each will be set in Accountancy and Auditing as detailed below:—

1st paper.—General Accounts.

2nd paper.—Special Accounts.

3rd paper.—Auditing.

- (b) One paper of three hours will be set in Mercantile Law as detailed below:—
 The Law of Contracts and Arbitration.

- (2) For Regulation 7 (c) the following should be substituted:—

- (c) Two papers of three hours each will be set in Co-operation as detailed below:—

1st paper.—Theory and Law of Co-operation.

2nd paper.—History and Practice of Co-operation.

“7-A.—Candidates from the Co-operative Departments will be allowed to appear, for and to pass in the three papers in Co-operation and Mercantile Law either before, or simultaneously with, or subsequent to, their passing in Accountancy and Auditing.”

8. In Accountancy and Auditing as well as in the Law of Contracts and Arbitration, candidates for this examination shall be required to answer the same papers as candidates for the Government Diploma in Accountancy of the Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics, Bombay.

9. To pass the examination, a candidate must satisfy the Board that he possesses an adequate knowledge of each of the three subjects referred to in Regulation No. 6.

10. Failure to satisfy the Board will not disqualify the candidate from presenting himself at a subsequent examination on a new application being forwarded and a fresh fee paid.

11. As soon as practicable after the conclusion of the examination, a list of successful candidates will be published arranged in alphabetical order, such of them as have passed with distinction being placed in the first class.

II. PRACTICAL TRAINING IN ACCOUNTS.

12. A candidate for the Government Diploma in Co-operative Accountancy shall be required to prove that he has for the period specified below, served under an auditor in the Co-operative Department to the satisfaction of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies :—

(a) Five years, in the case of undergraduates exempted under Regulation 5 from the production of a certificate of attendance at a recognized institution, inclusive of the practical training in accounts received by them prior to their appearing for the Diploma Examination of this Board.

(b) Three years, in the case of students of a recognised institution (other than University graduates) over and above the two years that they have attended a recognised institution under Regulation 4.

(c) Three years, in the case of graduates of one of the Universities of the United Kingdom or of India.

13. The Accountancy Diploma Board shall have power to frame by-laws providing for the recognition of institution under Regulation No. 4.

14. No person shall ordinarily be eligible for appointment as a permanent auditor under the Registrar of Co-operative Societies unless he holds (a) the Government Diploma in Co-operative Accountancy or (b) a permanent Auditor's Certificate granted by a Local Government under the Indian Companies' Act of 1913.

By order of the Government of Bombay (Transferred Departments),

M. WEBB,

Acting Secretary to Government.

Rao Sahab D. P. DESAI : Do Government entertain only articled clerks in the Co-operative Audit Department ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : No.

Mr. S. C. JOSHI : With reference to answers to (d) and (e) may I know whether Government will be pleased to make arrangements for outsiders to serve as articled clerks in the Department ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I will have to consult the Registrar about it.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES : AUDITING OF ACCOUNTS.

Mr. S. C. JOSHI : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many registered co-operative societies there were in the year 1925-26, 1926-27 and 1927-28 in the Bombay Presidency and of how many co-operative societies the audit was completed during that period ;

(b) whether Government have undertaken the responsibility of auditing the accounts of the registered co-operative societies at least once a year and, if so, whether they have fulfilled the obligation, and if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) The Honourable Member is referred to Part I of the *Bombay Government Gazette* dated 29th April 1926, 5th May 1927 and 3rd May 1928 wherein the lists of societies as on 31st March 1926, 1927 and 1928, respectively, are printed. Societies that have been audited by an officer of the Registrar's staff have the

classification mark shown against them, viz., A = very good, B = fair, C = poor and D = bad. Those that have no marks against them were not audited during the year.

(b) Section 22 of the Bombay Co-operative Societies Act, 1925, requires that the Registrar shall by himself or by some person authorized by him in writing by general or special order in this behalf audit the accounts of every society once at least in every year. In pursuance of this obligation all societies due for audit are so far as possible audited annually.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Are these marks placed against these societies in the annual reports ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : No ; not in the annual reports, but in the schedule published annually in the *Government Gazette*.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Will the Honourable Minister state why it is not included in the annual reports for the information of the public ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The names of all the societies are not published in the annual reports and therefore these marks cannot be published in the annual reports.

Mr. SYED MUNAWAR : In paragraph 2 of the reply it is stated : "The Registrar shall by himself or by some person authorised by him in writing by general or special order in this behalf audit the accounts of every society once at least in every year." That is to say, a statutory obligation has been imposed upon the Registrar by the Co-operative Societies Act. That being the case, how is it that all societies due for audit are audited annually only "so far as possible ?" Why not make sufficient arrangements for the annual audit of every society ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sufficient arrangement is made.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : Are Government aware that a large number of societies have remained unaudited ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Not many.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : Can Government give approximately the number of such societies ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : If notice is given that will be found out.

VERNACULAR SCHOOL, KANEGAON.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to the fact that the Vernacular School at Kanegaon in Walva Taluka of the Satara District meets in the Temple of Pandurang and that this accommodation is both inconvenient and insufficient ;

(b) whether their attention has been drawn to the fact that the people of the said village are prepared to spend the money required for a school building and that they have selected a suitable site in survey No. 4 adjacent to the village ;

(c) whether they are aware of the fact that the work of securing this place has been going on for the last four years ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) The latest Inspection Report on the Local Board School, Kanegaon, taluka Walva, shows that the temple of Pandurang where the school is held is not inconvenient for school purposes. The area of the temple is 243 square feet and is sufficient for 30 boys—the latest number on the roll of the school.

(b) The villagers of Kanegaon are prepared to construct a school house at their own cost on the selected site in survey No. 3 and not 4, belonging to the Inamdar of Bahadurwadi.

(c) The school at Kanegaon was opened from 1st April 1925. The statement that the work of securing the site has been going on for the last four years is incorrect. Correspondence regarding the acquisition of the land under the Land Acquisition Act, is in progress and the Local Authority is moving the Revenue Authorities to proceed in the matter.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : The accommodation may not be insufficient for 30 boys, but seeing that the school is being held in a public temple of Pandurang, is it not inconvenient both to the public as well as to the students ? As the public have access to the temple, their going and returning will cause disturbance to the students.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Several schools are held in mosques and temples, and it is found convenient to hold the schools there. I am not aware of any such inconvenience caused. If the honourable member will give me any further information and notice I will enquire.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : Is not the fact that the villagers are prepared to spend for a separate building and the matter has been hanging fire for four years sufficient evidence that it is inconvenient ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : If the honourable member will read the reply to part (c), he will see that the matter is under consideration, and it is not four years.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : How many years then ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : He will see if he kindly reads.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : I have read : it is stated that correspondence is in progress. But what is the period during which this correspondence has been going on ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : That of course the honourable member must ask the Revenue Department.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : My question is, is not the fact that the public have selected a suitable site and are prepared to incur expenditure for a building sufficient evidence that the present use of the temple is found inconvenient both to the public and to the scholars ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Well, that may be so. Whatever question has been asked the reply is given. If it

is inconvenient, well, they have applied to the Revenue Department and the Revenue Department is looking after that.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : Will Government be pleased to expedite the acquisition of the site for the school ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : That may be done, as I said, by notice to the Revenue Department.

Dr. P. G. SOLANKI : Are the children of the depressed classes admitted in the schools held in temples and mosques ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : In the mosques of course they are admitted.

Dr. P. G. SOLANKI : What about temples ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : About temples, the honourable member knows better than I do.

Dr. P. G. SOLANKI : Is it not desirable that schools should be situated away from the temples ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : The desirability I am not going to discuss here.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES : AUDITORS.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the scale of one auditor for 100 co-operative societies was fixed in 1915-16 as recommended by the Committee on Co-operation ;

(b) whether Government are aware that the average capital and the average membership of societies have considerably increased since that scale was originally fixed ;

(c) if so, what steps they intend to take to avoid the existing delay in the audit arising from the increase in the work of the present staff ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) No definite scale has been fixed but an auditor generally examines from 100 to 120 societies in a year. The exact number of societies in charge of each auditor depends on the average working capital and the turn-over of the individual societies.

(b) Yes ; in some cases. But the areas of the jurisdiction of individual auditors are much smaller than they were in 1915-16. Additional establishment is being sanctioned as and when required.

(c) Does not arise.

INSPECTORS OF RECORDS : NEW POSTS.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether two posts of inspectors of records have been created, one for the Southern Division and the other for the Central Division ;

(b) whether it is a fact that they were given training in the office of the Commissioner of Settlement of Land Revenue; if so, for what period;

(c) the reasons which led to the creation of such posts;

(d) the duties of those inspectors, and their monthly pay;

(e) whether the measure is a temporary or permanent one;

(f) whether their main duty or one of their duties is to burn the records or otherwise destroy them;

(g) if so, what those records are and why they are being so dealt with?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g).

No posts of Inspectors of records have been created. Two posts of Inspectors for supervising the working of the system of office procedure in force in Government offices outside the Secretariat have been created under Mr. Anderson, Commissioner of Settlements and Director of Land Records, with the sanction of the Legislative Council, with effect from the 1st April 1928.

Full information about the duties and salaries attached to these posts and the reasons for their creation are given in the accompanying copy of the statement of the new item of expenditure presented to the Council in the February session of 1928.

22-C(b)—General Administration (Reserved).

Member in Charge—The Honourable Sir CHUNILAL V. MEHTA.

Item.—Entertainment of establishment for supervising the working of the System of Office procedure in force in Government Offices.

Recurring	.. Rs. 6,900	Non-recurring	.. Rs. Nil.
Total	.. „ 6,900	Ultimate annual recurring	.. „ 6,900

Remarks.—The system of office procedure followed in Government Offices in the mofussil requires thorough overhauling. In most of the district offices the system devised by Mr. F. G. H. Anderson, Commissioner of Settlement and Director of Land Records, is being followed, but it has not proved to be an unqualified success owing to the facts that (1) it is somewhat complicated and is not easily understood by all who have to work it and (2) there is no adequate provision for proper supervision of the working of the system.

2. At the request of Government Mr. Anderson has agreed to re-examine his system with a view to simplifying it and to make arrangements to see that the revised system is being properly worked in the mofussil offices. For this purpose he requires the services of two Inspectors whose duties will be to tour from place to place and to see that the system is kept in proper working order in the various district offices. A lump provision of Rs. 6,900 is therefore proposed to be made in next year's budget as per details given below:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Two Inspectors at Rs. 200 per mensem each for 11 months..	..	4,400	0 0
Travelling allowance	..	2,250	0 0
Contingencies	..	250	0 0
Total	..	6,900	0 0

Mr. M. D. KARKI: May I know if the posts created are meant for the Southern Division only or for the whole Presidency?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: For the whole Presidency.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: Then, do the men trained in the office know all the official languages of the Presidency?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : If the honourable member will give notice, I will enquire.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : My question was whether they were appointed for the Southern Division.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : That was not clear from the question itself.

DISMISSED PATELS, KANARA : FORFEITURE OF PAY.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Collector of Kanara had, while dismissing the village patels in the taluka of Siddapur, Kanara, during the strike in November 1921, forfeited the pay of all or some of them which was in arrears at the time of their dismissal ;

(b) if so, under what law or rule that was done by the Collector ;

(c) the number of patels whose past pay was forfeited as stated in part (a) and the amount of pay forfeited in each case ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) and (b) Yes. The pay (in arrears) of those patels who were dismissed for having joined the strike in 1921 was forfeited. Government have now decided to refund the forfeited amounts to the persons concerned.

(c) The number of patels was 45 and the amount forfeited Rs. 1,343-5-0. Besides these 45 patels who were dismissed for having joined the strike, two more patels were dismissed and their arrears of pay forfeited to Government for having joined the non-co-operation movement. Another patel, who was a probationer, was removed from the service, as he resigned after having joined the non-co-operation movement. A statement* showing the amount forfeited in each case is attached.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Will the refund of the pay forfeited by Government be made in the course of the current financial year ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Yes, during the current year.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Will the pay of the three patels who were dismissed from service because they joined the non-co-operation movement be refunded ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I am afraid I cannot say : the honourable member will be able to discover that himself if he refers to the statement placed in the Council Office.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : The answer is not definite.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I know.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Two patels were dismissed because they joined the non-co-operation movement, and the probationary patel also was removed because he joined the non-co-operation movement. Will their pay be refunded ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I cannot say anything more.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Do Government intend to re-appoint the patels who were dismissed ?

* Kept in the Secretary's office.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: The question has not come up before me.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: If the question comes up, will the Honourable the Revenue Member view it favourably?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: I am not prepared to say.

BOMBAY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, KANDIVLI QUARRY.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Messrs. Manilal Patil and Company put in a claim for about rupees one lakh for extra rock cutting at the Kandivli Quarry during the seasons 1926-27;

(b) whether it is a fact that Mr. Duggan the Deputy Chief Engineer, on the report of Mr. Appayyah, Sub-Engineer, reported adversely on the claim and that Mr. K. S. Framji, Chief Engineer, refused to entertain that claim;

(c) the date of Mr. Framji's order disallowing the claims;

(d) whether it is a fact that Mr. Duggan proceeding on leave in 1928 recommended the same claim for payment;

(e) the amount paid towards that claim;

(f) the circumstances between the periods mentioned in (c) and (d) which led to the change in the opinions of Mr. Duggan and Mr. Framji?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: (a) Yes. Messrs. Patel and Company, who were carrying out the work of excavating and loading of dry earth, etc., under a K-2 contract, had put in a claim amounting to Rs. 1,47,438 for removing rock met with in the excavation for dry filling.

(b) This claim was not recommended to be entertained by Mr. Appayya, Sub-Engineer. The Deputy Chief Engineer, Mr. Duggan, who went into the whole question, did not consider the claim justifiable and refused to recommend it. The Chief Engineer, Mr. Framji, also refused to entertain the claim.

(c) 19th September 1927.

(d) No.

(e) and (f) In view of the reply to (d) these do not arise.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (in Urdu): Have any further applications been received after the claim referred to in the question?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: As far as I know, no other application has been received.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH: The contractors made a claim for Rs. 1,47,438; have they received anything at all in respect of this claim, or did they get nothing out of it?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: I want notice of the question.

MORTAR MILL IN SUB-DIVISION NO. 2, SUKKUR BARRAGE

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a man by name Mukandlal working as officer in charge of the mortar mill in Sub-division No. 2 in Sukkur Barrage;

(b) whether it is a fact that the contract of the above mill is given to Rao Sahib Gangaram;

(c) whether it is a fact that the contractor Rao Sahib Gangaram has sublet his contract to a petty contractor by name Govindram;

(d) whether it is a fact that this Govindram is a brother of the officer in charge, Mr. Mukanlal;

(e) if the reply to (d) is in the affirmative, whether there is any Government rule or order prohibiting two brothers working in such capacities, i.e., one in charge of the work and the other a contractor for the same work?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: (a) Yes. Mr. Mukandlal is an Upper Subordinate under the Assistant Engineer in charge of Sub-division No. 2 and supervises mortar mills grinding slurry.

(b) No. Rao Sahib Gangaram and Mr. T. Roopchand have the contract for grinding mortar. They have nothing to do with the contract for running the mortar mills.

(c) According to the usual practice Rao Sahib Gangaram and Mr. T. Roopchand engaged petty piece-workers under a purely private arrangement one of whom was Govindram. The latter was replaced by the contractors by another piece-worker after a period of six weeks.

(d) Yes.

(e) As Mr. Mukandlal was not directly in charge of the work where his brother was employed by the contractors the question does not arise.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH: Was this Mukandlal doing any supervising work?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: The reply is there.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH: I am asking what was the supervisor doing; the reply states that Mukandlal was not directly responsible and was under the Assistant Engineer, but was he indirectly concerned with his brother's contract?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: The reply is already there.

MUNSHI TO MUKHTIARKAR: MIRPUR BATTORO

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that Mr. Mahomed Hussain was dismissed by the Collector of Karachi from his post as Munshi of the Mukhtiarkar of Mirpur Battoro on 16th October 1914;

(b) whether they are aware that the dismissal was without any charge as was found afterwards when he appealed to the Commissioner in Sind after six months, i.e., on 12th February 1915;

(c) whether they will be pleased to lay on the table the papers regarding the facts that led to his dismissal ;

(d) whether it is a fact that he was charged with writing a seditious letter which was during the enquiry found to be forged and written by one Mahomed Haroon who was found guilty and sentenced to 12 months imprisonment ;

(e) whether they are aware that an appeal which has been sent to the Government on 23rd May 1921 through the Commissioner in Sind is yet undisposed of ;

(f) when they will decide the appeal ;

(g) if the appeal cannot be decided immediately whether any provision has been made for the support of his family ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) Yes ; he was dismissed on 9th October 1914.

(b) On an appeal being made to the Commissioner in Sind against the Collector's order of dismissal, it was observed that a formal charge had not been framed against the munshi. The Collector was accordingly asked to suspend the execution of his order and to follow the procedure prescribed by Government. The Collector then acted accordingly and his subsequent order confirming his previous order of dismissal was upheld by the Commissioner.

(c) Government are not prepared to accede to this request.

(d) He was not charged with writing a seditious letter nor was he dismissed on that ground.

(e) The appeal which was addressed to the Government of India was withheld by this Government in exercise of the discretionary power vested in them by the rules regarding the submission of memorials to the Government of India. The memorialist was informed accordingly on 8th July 1921.

(f) and (g) Do not arise.

SMALL HOLDINGS BILL.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state whether the Small Holdings Bill has been definitely abandoned or is likely to come up again for consideration by the Legislative Council ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : It has not been definitely abandoned.

ALIENATION OFFICE : PERIOD FOR SUPPLYING COPIES.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any rules regarding the period within which copies of any papers applied for are to be supplied to the applicants by the Alienation Office, Poona ;

(b) if so, will they be pleased to place them on the Council Table ;

(c) if not whether Government propose to lay down rules in this connection ?

The Hon ourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No hard and fast rule can be laid down as the period depends on the amount of search involved in tracing the documents of which copies are required.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : Is the Government aware that considerable delay is occasioned in supplying copies of papers in the alienation office, public documents, to litigants when they are urgently required ? Are they aware that considerable delays are often occasioned when litigants require copies urgently for production in court ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Well, that may be the case. But the honourable member must understand that it is very difficult often to trace these documents. They are very old documents, and it naturally requires a long time to search for them.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : Will Government be pleased to issue instructions to see that no delay is occasioned when there is no time lost in searching and when the documents are found ? At present even when the document is found, some delay is occasioned.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I am not aware of that. But if the honourable member will give me any particular instances, I shall have enquiries made.

GOVERNMENT SERVANTS' COLONY.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have started or intend to start a Government Servants' Colony in Poona and grant lands to Government servants either on occupancy price or on assessment ;

(b) if so, will they be pleased to state the details of the scheme ;

(c) whether they have received any applications from Government servants in that connection ; if so, will they be pleased to state their names and designations ;

(d) whether Government intend to grant their request ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) Yes. Government have decided to reserve in the Town Planning Scheme at Bhamburda (No. 1) 44 plots for Government servants.

(b) The details of the scheme are as follows :—

“ 1. Employees who have put in more than 20 years' service shall not be eligible for the benefit of the scheme.

2. The plots shall be valued at double the 1916 value as shown in the accompanying statement A.

3. The grant of land shall be on lease. The rent to be 5 per cent. on the value prescribed in paragraph 2 above and to be liable to revision at the end of 99 years.

4. The lessee shall be responsible for the payment of ' Incremental Contribution ' under the Town Planning Scheme, i.e., 50 per cent. of the difference between the 1916 value and the final value, with the option of making this payment in 20 annual instalments.

5. The lessee shall be bound to erect a house within two years of the date of receiving possession of the land and the plans of the building shall be approved by the Consulting Surveyor to Government.

6. No plot shall be sold or sublet without the express permission of the Collector. If a plot is let or sold to a person other than a Government servant still in service, the rent shall be liable to revision forthwith.

7. The plots shall be assigned by 'lot' among the Government servants who accept these conditions."

(c) In all 11 applications have been received by the Collector of Poona since the issue of Government orders sanctioning the reservation of plots for Government servants in the Town Planning Scheme. A statement B giving the names and designations of applicants for plots is appended. Previous to the issue of the orders of Government 85 applications were received from Government servants for the grant of plots but as they were not submitted in accordance with the orders of Government, their names are not given.

(d) These applications are still under consideration.

A

Accompaniment to Government Resolution, General Department, no. 1222,
dated the 1st February 1928.

Town Planning Scheme, Poona No. I

Statement of values of the Plots in F. P. No. 83, Government Clerks' Colony, as at the date of declaration of intention of the Scheme, i.e., 12th December 1916.

Plot no., parts of 83	Area		Original value		Final value	
			Rate per acre	Amount	Rate per acre	Amount
	A.	g.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	0	3.7	Rs. 1,500 per acre.	139+A	7,500	694+A
2	0	10.1		379+X	7,000	1,768+X
3	0	11.3		424+Y	7,200	2,034+Y
4	0	3.1		116+Z	5,600	434+Z
5	0	4.6		173	7,200	828
6	0	5.9		221	7,000	1,032
7	0	6.0		225	6,800	1,020
8	0	5.9		221	6,600	973
9	0	5.7		214	7,000	998
10	0	7.0		263	6,600	1,165
11	0	7.1		268	6,400	1,136
12	0	6.4		240	6,000	960
13	0	5.9		221	5,800	856
14	0	6.8		255	5,400	918
15	0	5.8		218	5,400	783
16	0	6.5		244	5,800	943
17	0	6.0		225	5,800	870
18	0	5.5		206	5,400	743
19	0	5.9		221	5,600	826
20	0	3.9		148	5,200	507
21	0	3.4		128	5,600	476
22	0	3.5		131	5,600	490
23	0	5.1		191	5,600	714

Plot no., parts of 83	Area		Original value		Final value	
			Rate per acre	Amount	Rate per acre	Amount
	A.	g.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
24	0	5.1	} Rs. 1,500 per acre.	191	5,400	689
25	0	5.1		191	5,600	714
26	0	4.7		176	5,600	658
27	0	4.3		161	5,600	602
28	0	4.3		161	5,400	581
29	0	4.5		169	5,200	585
30	0	4.4		165	5,200	572
31	0	4.5		169	5,400	608
32	0	5.2		195	5,000	650
33	0	5.1		191	4,800	612
34	0	4.9		184	4,800	588
35	0	5.2		195	4,800	624
36	0	5.1		191	5,000	638
37	0	5.0		188	5,000	625
38	0	5.2		195	5,200	676
39	0	5.8		217	5,000	725
40	0	5.5		206	5,000	688
41	0	5.3		199	4,800	636
42	0	5.5		206	4,800	660
43	0	5.8		217	5,200	754
44	0	6.1		229	6,000	915
				9,063		34,958

Final values as shown in this list, very closely approximate the present market value of the land.

B

Statement showing the names and designations of the applicants for plots in the proposed Government servants' colony at Bhamburda.

Serial No.	Name of applicant	Designation
1	Mr. S. D. Bhadkamkar	Head Clerk, Deputy Educational Inspector, Urdu Schools.
2	" V. V. Agashe	Upper Subordinate, Tail Survey and Remodelling Office, Baramati.
3	" N. S. Joshi	Assistant Engineer, do.
4	" K. N. Kalwade	Clerk, do.
5	" R. Y. Pundalik	Drill Master, Training College for Men, Poona.
6	" B. S. Dani	Clerk, Training College for Women, Poona.
7	" L. V. Mandke	Teacher, Training College for Men, Poona.
8	" A. Y. Maydeo	Assistant Engineer, Baramati.
9	" G. S. Dandavate	Auditor, Co-operative Purchase and Sale Societies.
10	" D. G. Dixit	Assistant Engineer, Malsiras Sub-Division in Sholapur.
11	" L. B. Kotharkar	Demonstrator in Physics.

INAMDAR OF NIMBODI : KADIM CASH ALLOWANCES.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether an order No. 912 of 22nd December 1925 has been issued by the Commissioner, C. D., in connection with the recovery of the kadim cash allowances in inam villages;

(b) whether an extract of the relevant portion only (and not of the whole correspondence) of the said order was asked for by the Inamdar of Nimbodi, taluka Bhimthadi, district Poona, on the 13th and 25th of July 1927;

(c) whether the Commissioner, C. D., by No. L.N.D. 1/87 of 18th August 1927, replied to the Inamdar that the extract applied for could not be granted;

(d) if so, what the reasons for not supplying the extract asked for are?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a) The Commissioner's letter No. 912 dated 22nd December 1925 was not an order, but only a reply to a reference from the Collector of Poona in the matter of the recovery of kadim cash allowances.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The letter formed part of an official correspondence. It was not a public document of which the public could demand a copy or an extract.

SARDAR G. N. MUJUMDAR: Have Government issued general orders recently on this subject of the recovery of Kadim cash allowances in inami villages?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: There must be very many general orders on this subject. I cannot refer to them at the present moment; I have not got them with me.

DEATH OF MURDER-SUSPECT, PADVE.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE (Ahmednagar District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that some Kunabis at Padve, taluka Rajapur, district Ratnagiri were arrested as being suspects in the murder of one Narkar who was residing in the village;

(b) whether it is a fact that one of these Kunabis died as a result of injuries he sustained by being beaten at the police station in the course of investigation;

(c) whether any complaint was lodged with the First Class Magistrate of Rajapur by the son of the deceased a day before his death to the effect that his father is in danger of losing his life at the hands of the police;

(d) whether a *panchanama* was held immediately after the death of the deceased and the corpse sent for *post-mortem* examination;

(e) whether any telegram was received by the mamlatdar from the District Magistrate to investigate the cause of the death;

(f) whether the mamlatdar held the inquiries in the presence of the Inspector of Police, S. D., of Ratnagiri;

(g) whether they are aware of the public opinion in the village regarding the death of the man on the question whether he died a natural death or was murdered; if so, what such opinion is;

(h) whether any complaint was received by the District Magistrate, Ratnagiri, from the son of the deceased in respect of the death of his father?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) Yes.

(e) No.

(f) Yes.

(g) Allegations that the death of one Sadu Yesu was the result of beating by the Police were made but inquiry by the First Class Magistrate, Rajapur, does not support these allegations.

(h) No.

DEVELOPMENT OF AREA ADJACENT TO NASIK ROAD STATION.

Mr. A. C. OWEN (European, Presidency): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that the area adjacent to Nasik Road station is suitable for industrial development and that such development is retarded owing to the difficulty of obtaining a good water supply;

(b) whether they intend to investigate the possibility of obtaining the necessary water supply from the Dharna river so as to facilitate the development of this area?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a) The area in question appears to be more suitable for residential than for industrial development. Government are not in possession of any information indicating that the provision of a water supply would result in development of the latter kind.

(b) The question is under consideration.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: Have Government enquired of the Collector in this matter? I refer to the first part of the answer.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: Yes; that is the result of a reference to the Collector.

"HINDU" OF 12TH AUGUST 1928.

Mr. A. D. SHETH (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have seen the supplement to the *Hindu* of Surat dated the 12th August 1928, wherein quotations from different papers were published;

(b) how many and which of the papers quoted in the said *Hindu* are published in this presidency;

(c) whether Government have seen the original writings of the papers that are published in this presidency from which the quotations were taken ;

(d) against how many and which of the papers Government have sanctioned prosecutions ;

(e) whether they have sent these writings to the Legal Remembrancer or to the Advocate General for opinion as to whether they come under section 153, Indian Penal Code ? If not why not ? If they did, whether they will put their opinions on the Council table ;

(f) the usual procedure that is followed before a sanction to prosecute under section 153, Indian Penal Code, is given ;

(g) what department and what officer has been entrusted to take the initiative in the matter with the name of the officer concerned ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) Yes.

(b) All five ; four of them, however, the *Munsiff*, *Muslim Awaz*, *Rehbar* and *Madadgar* have ceased to exist.

(c) The articles quoted from the *Aftab-e-Islam*, one from the *Muslim Awaz* dated the 25th August 1927 and one from the *Madadgar* dated the 26th August 1927 were brought to the notice of Government.

(d) The editor, printer and publisher of the *Aftab-e-Islam* was prosecuted under sections 292 and 295-A, Indian Penal Code, and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 300.

(e) Several of these articles did not come to the notice of Government until after the papers in which they appeared had ceased to exist. It was then considered to be too late to take any action. In one case, that of the *Muslim Awaz* the editor was warned. Government do not propose to lay the opinions of their legal advisers in any of these cases on the table.

(f) If Government on reading any article, or a translation of it, consider that it appears to offend against section 153-A, Indian Penal Code, they consult their legal advisers. The subsequent procedure is guided by the opinions of those advisers.

(g) The District Magistrates and the Oriental Translator to Government bring to the notice of Government any articles which they consider objectionable.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS : POLLING DAY.

Mr. A. D. SHETH (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to the fact that the last Council elections took place just at the time when agriculturists were very busy with their agricultural operations and that in consequence the polling was very poor in many parts of Gujarat ;

(b) whether they are aware that on the eleventh of the Hindoo month, agriculturists generally observe a holiday ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the answer given to a question by him on the same subject at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 3rd March 1927.

(b) As far as Government are aware, the practice in this respect is not uniform.

LAND TRANSFER FROM AGRICULTURISTS TO NON-AGRICULTURISTS.

Mr. A. D. SHETH (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what portion of land, reported by Mr. Covernton to have been transferred from the agriculturists to the non-agriculturists during the years 1905 to 1925, was actually under cultivation at the date of transfer and what portion of the said transferred lands is actually under cultivation now ;

(b) what portion of the said transferred lands belonged to the actual tiller of the land ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) and (b) It is not possible to collect the complete information required, and even such information as could be made available could only be collected with great expenditure of time and labour. Government are not therefore prepared to undertake its collection.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : May I know what is the standard of the Government labour and expenses to be incurred after that ? This is a very important question and I would like to know the details of it.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : There is no particular standard laid down ; but, when it is perfectly obvious that the information cannot be collected without great time and trouble and it is not apparent that the information when collected will be of any public utility, then Government decide not to collect the information.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : My point is that yesterday, too, to so many questions the answer was that the expenditure of time and labour involved was not commensurate with the result, etc. When the question is important, let the labour and money be spent. There must be some standard laid down.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I have given my reply.

DHOLERA PORT.

Mr. A. D. SHETH (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether all the khalsa villages in Dhandhuka Taluka, except Ranpur and Dhandhuka, are not nearer to Dholera than to Dhandhuka and whether Dholera is not the natural market place for all these villages ;

(b) whether it is not a fact that the exports from Dholera, namely, cotton, wheat, gram, etc., are generally made from the port of Dholera ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) Yes.

(b) It is a fact that the exports from Dholera are made from the port of Dholera and they mainly consist of wheat and gram. Cotton is no longer exported from this port.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Why is not cotton exported any longer from that port ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Because there is no cotton for export, I presume.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Have Government made any enquiries about the condition of that port ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Yes, many enquiries.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : What is the opinion of Government about that port ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : It is that the port is in a very bad way.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Have Government ever tried to improve that port and spent money to keep it in condition ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I understand that the trouble is that the local board will not provide the necessary road leading from Dholera to Whittle Bunder (which is the port referred to, I believe).

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Have Government ever tried to improve the roadstead of that port ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Government have had the question under their consideration for a very long time and there have been proposals for transferring the actual port to another place. Much investigation has taken place, and I understand that the navigable channel leading to the port has been much improved. The difficulty now is the question of a road leading from the town to the actual port.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Are Government aware that the State of Bhavnagar, by dredgers, silts up the inlet to that port ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : No, I have no information on that point and I should be very interested if the honourable member would communicate his information to me.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Are Government aware that the Government of India have closed the lighthouse at the port of Dholera ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I am informed that the Government of India removed the lighthouse some three or four years ago, but I am not aware of the circumstances in which it was removed.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Did this Government protest against that action of the Government of India ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Not to my knowledge.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : Is it a fact that there is an arrangement between the Bhavnagar State and this Government not to develop this port ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That question cannot be asked.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : Apart from the question of a road, has any improvement been made in the Dholera Port within the last five years or even say ten years ? Has any money been spent on it ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I must ask for notice of that question as I am not able to state what expenditure has been incurred.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI : Are Government aware that the Legislative Council of the Bombay Presidency has passed a certain resolution or certain Acts by which the Bhavnagar Port was transferred to the Bhavnagar State in 1869 or in 1876 ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I have no information on that point.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Next question.

DHOLERA PORT : EXPORTS

Mr. A. D. SHETH (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state the value of exports in wheat, gram and cotton from the port of Dholera from the year 1924-25 to the current year ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : The value of exports in wheat and gram from 1924-25 to 1927-28 is shown below :—

				Wheat.	Gram.
				Rs.	Rs.
1924-25	..	..	..	16,469	Nil.
1925-26	..	..	..	Nil.	Nil.
1926-27	..	..	..	488	13,125
1927-28	..	..	..	99,959	50,027

Cotton is no longer exported from this port.

REVISED ASSESSMENT : THANA DISTRICT.

Dr. P. G. SOLANKI : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the assessment in the Government villages of Borivli and other places in the Thana District has been raised by 33½ per cent. as the result of the last revision survey ;

(b) whether the Proprietor of the villages of Eksar and Magathan near Borivli has been helped in the matter of raising the assessment to the above extent ;

(c) why he has been permitted to raise the assessment ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) The revised assessment of the Government village of Borivli and of others in the Bombay Suburban District has been raised by 33½ per cent. as the result of the current revision settlement of the South Salsette taluka.

(b) and (c) When the survey settlement was introduced, the then khot of Eksar and Magathan agreed to levy from his tenants the same settlement rates as were prevailing in the neighbouring Government villages. Accordingly, when the revision settlement was introduced in 1927, the rates of agricultural assessment were simultaneously enhanced by the khot.

Mr. C. R. SHROFF : Did Government receive any objections from the villagers ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I am not aware of any objection.

POLICE SERVICE : DEPRESSED CLASSES.

Dr. P. G. SOLANKI : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many Depressed untouchable class men were candidates for services in the Police Department, C. I. D. and Watch and Ward Department during the last two years ;

(b) how many applications were received by the Departments concerned from these classes ;

(c) how many candidates were actually taken upon the service Roll ;

(d) if none were taken up what the causes which disqualified them were and what the policy of the Departments concerned towards the employment of candidates of those classes will be in future ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) and (b) 237 in the whole Presidency including Sind, but excluding the C. I. D., for which there is no direct recruitment, and Bombay City, where a few members of this class presented themselves for employment, but no exact record has been kept of the number. As regards the Watch and Ward Department, Government have no information, because Railways are a Central subject.

(c) 81, including two in Bombay City.

(d) Does not arise.

TEACHERS : TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE ON TRANSFERS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the principles on which the travelling allowance is paid to teachers who are transferred from one place to another in the districts ;

(b) whether in the district of Ahmedabad, even those teachers who are transferred from one place to another on public grounds have not been paid travelling allowance ;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, the principles on which such travelling allowance is being withheld from them ;

(d) whether there are definite rules governing the grant of travelling allowance ;

(e) if so, whether Government will place them on the Council table ?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : (a) In the districts of the Northern Division in which control of primary education has not yet been transferred, *viz.*, the districts of Ahmedabad, Surat, Broach and Kaira permanent Local Board teachers transferred on public grounds are paid travelling allowances according to scales prescribed in the Vernacular Masters' Code. In districts in which control of primary education has been transferred it is understood that some local authorities pay travelling allowances to their teachers according to the Civil Service Regulations and some according to the Fundamental Rules. The question of amending rule 46 of the Primary Education Rules, 1924, so as to make the travelling allowance rules in the subsidiary rules under

the Fundamental Rules applicable to all classes of employees of School Boards of local authorities is under the consideration of Government.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) *Vide* reply to clause (a) above.

(e) A copy of the rules in Chapter VIII of the Vernacular 'Masters' Code is placed on the Council Table.

Accompaniment to Government Memorandum, No. L.C. 1363-J.C.S.-F.N.-7357 F, dated the 15th December 1928.

CHAPTER VIII.—TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES.

1. Travelling allowance is given to an officer to cover the actual travelling expenses incurred by him in travelling in the interest of the public service. It is a fundamental principle that the allowance is not to be a source of profit, and save as specially provided in these rules no allowances are granted to meet the expenses of the families of officers accompanying them when travelling on duty.

2. The rules regarding travelling allowance have not been framed with the object of securing to an officer in every instance the exact sum which he spends. Their object is to recoup to an officer on an average the extra expenditure which he incurs by travelling.

3. For the purpose of calculating travelling allowance a journey between two stations is held to be performed by the shortest of two or more practicable routes or by the cheapest of such routes as may be equally short.

4. Masters in superior service, when they are transferred from one place to another on some public ground, are entitled to travelling allowances as under :—

(a) for journeys by road, mileage at annas 2 per mile;

(b) for journeys by railways, second class double fare in the case of those whose pay is Rs. 50 and above, and third class double fare for those whose pay ranges from Rs. 11 to 49;

(c) for journeys by sea, passage money for each member of his family actually travelling with the master. If, however, any member of his family is prevented by good and sufficient reason from travelling with him, the officer who orders the transfer may sanction the grant of passage money for such member, provided that he or she follows the officer within six months of his transfer, or precedes him by not more than a month.

5. If board is not provided on the vessel or though provided cannot, owing to caste or other religious scruples, be availed of, a master is entitled to table money for every day that he dines on board—

(1) at the rate of daily allowance (subject to a minimum of 4 annas) for himself and for each member of his family for whom passage money is admissible, and who is not less than six years of age; and

(2) at half such rate for each such member of his family who is less than six years of age.

But in no case is table money admissible if he disembarks before 7 p.m.

6. In addition to passage money an officer travelling by steamer is reimbursed the actual expenses incurred by him in embarking and disembarking, i.e., the charges from the quay to the vessel. Charges incurred on shore are not reimbursed.

7. Travelling by road includes travelling by sea or river otherwise than in a steamer and travelling by canal.

8. An officer of the third class (all masters are in this class) is entitled to a daily allowance of 2 annas for every 12½ rupees, or fraction of 12½ rupees, of the pay or maximum pay of his appointment, subject to a minimum of 6 annas in the Bombay Presidency

Scale.

Rs. a. p.			Rs. a. p.
60 0 0	daily allowance	..	0 10 0
55 0 0	Do.	..	0 10 0
50 0 0	Do.	..	0 8 0
45 0 0	Do.	..	0 8 0
40 0 0	Do.	..	0 8 0
37 8 0	Do.	..	0 8 0
Below 37 8 0	Do.	..	0 6 0

9. Masters who are called up for retraining may claim travelling allowance as follows: Steamer and Railway fares as shown above, and mileage limited to daily allowance for road journey when the master travels partly by road and partly by rail or steamer. No passage money for family is allowed in this case.

For road journey only, mileage limited to daily allowance at the rate of 15 miles per day.

10. A master summoned to give evidence of facts which have come to his knowledge or of matters with which he has had to deal in his public capacity either (1) in a criminal case, including a case before a court-martial, or (2) in a civil case to which Government is a party, may draw travelling allowance as if he had been called up for retraining; provided that he must obtain from the court any travelling or subsistence allowance to which he may be entitled by the rules of the court, and must deduct the amount from the travelling allowance claimed.

A master on leave summoned to give evidence before a court of the kind here contemplated is entitled to travelling allowance under this rule from and to the place from which he is summoned, as if he were on duty.

11. A master summoned to give evidence in other circumstances is not entitled by reason of his being a Government servant to any allowances other than those admissible by the rules of the court. But if the court pays him any sum by way of subsistence allowance or compensation, apart from any allowance for travelling expenses, he must repay that amount to Government before drawing full pay for the day or days of absence.

LIQUOR SHOPS: HOLIDAYS.

SYED MUNAWAR: Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether only country liquor shops are closed on Mohurram and Holi holidays;

(b) whether foreign liquor shops are kept open on these days;

(c) whether they contemplate the closing of foreign liquor shops on those holidays on which country liquor shops are kept closed;

(d) if so, when they propose to introduce the change?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) and (b) The orders of Government are that all liquor shops in municipal areas should be closed on the Holi and Mohurram holidays. These orders do not apply to Refreshment Rooms.

(c) and (d) In view of the reply to clauses (a) and (b) the questions do not arise.

Mr. SYED MUNAWAR: With regard to the answer to (a) and (b) that "these orders do not apply to Refreshment Rooms," do not refreshment rooms include bars?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: They do.

Mr. SYED MUNAWAR: Why is this preferential treatment shown to refreshment rooms selling liquor?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: It is not a preferential treatment, as refreshment rooms principally exist to serve refreshments.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: Do Government apply the same restrictions to refreshment rooms?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: No.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN: Do not refreshment rooms sell liquor?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: They do, but their main business is to supply other refreshments other than liquor.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN: Would not they be compelled to furnish liquor to whoever comes?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : There is no question of compelling them. They do supply it.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN : Why is there this difference if they are compelled to supply liquor ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The sole commodity sold by liquor shops is liquor, but in the case of refreshment rooms the principal commodities sold are refreshments and liquor is a minor article of consumption.

Dr. M. D. GILDER : Does it mean that no one can get liquor in the refreshment rooms unless he bought other refreshments ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : That depends upon the refreshment room keeper.

Dr. M. D. GILDER : I take it that there is nothing in the law to prevent him from supplying liquor to anybody who goes and asks for a glass of liquor alone.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I think it depends on the terms of the license.

Dr. M. D. GILDER : Are there any terms in the license which will prevent, in the case of any refreshment room, the refreshment room keeper from providing liquor unless something else is ordered with it ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I have not gone through the terms of the license, but if the honourable member will give me notice, I will go through it and find out whether that can be done or not.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Why do not Government prohibit the sale of liquor on these holidays in refreshment rooms ?

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : What is the difficulty in the way of Government prohibiting the sale of liquor in these refreshment rooms on these two particular days ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : People who go to these refreshment rooms for refreshment take some liquor as part of the refreshment.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : But suppose Government prohibit the sale of liquor on these two days in these refreshment rooms, what is the difficulty ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : An officer of very high standing will have to be kept there to keep watch whether everything is carried on properly.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Are not Government aware that persons who cannot get liquor from municipal areas in the ordinary liquor shops are able to get indefinite supplies of liquor from these refreshment rooms during the holidays ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : There is no indefinite supply ; there is only a limited supply.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : By closing the other liquor shops and keeping open the refreshment rooms, are not Government giving the latter special advantages ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Does the honourable member desire that in order to curtail the sales of liquor in refreshment rooms the other liquor shops should be kept open on those days ?

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : No. The refreshment rooms also should be closed during these days.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALJEE : Are the heavens going to fall if the refreshment rooms are closed on these holidays ?

The Honourable the President : Next question.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT STORE-KEEPER : SATARA DISTRICT.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Store-keeper in the Public Works Department, Satara District, was transferred from Ahmednagar to Satara District as a punishment ;

(b) whether it is a fact that his pay was also reduced for some period for his offence ;

(c) if so, what the offence committed by him was ?

The Honourable Diwan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) No.

(b) and (c) No. His increment was withheld for unsatisfactory work and conduct.

TALATIS : NASIK DISTRICT : DURATION OF CHARGE IN ONE PLACE.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of talatis in the Nasik District who have been kept in charge of the same saja for ten years or more ;

(b) the names of such talatis ;

(c) in what talukas they are kept in charge of the saja and the names of the villages in which they reside ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) There are no talatis in the Nasik District who have been in charge of their present sazas for more than 10 years.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

LOCAL BOARDS : VESTING OF WELLS AND TANKS.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of public wells and tanks in each district of the Central Division not constructed by the Irrigation Department and situated within the district board limits but not vested in the local boards concerned ;

(b) whether Government now intend to vest them in the local boards concerned ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) Government regret that the information required by the honourable member cannot be furnished as

its compilation would require an expenditure of time and labour incommensurate with any public utility that would be served thereby.

(b) In 1926 Government directed that as an experimental measure all non-irrigational village tanks and wells in the Presidency proper which were in charge of the Revenue Department should be transferred to the District Local Boards concerned for a period of five years provided that these bodies agreed to certain conditions.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : What districts have accepted this condition, and taken over control of tanks and wells ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I must ask for notice of that question.

BORING MACHINES.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many boring machines in each district there are under each sectional Deputy Director and with the district local boards for the use of the people in the Deccan ;

(b) the place and taluka where machines are kept ;

(c) the department in charge of each of the machines ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a), (b) and (c) A statement containing the information required by the Honourable Member is placed on the Council Table.

Statement showing the number of boring machines working in the Deccan.

Serial No.	Kind of boring machine	Place	Taluka	Name of the officer in charge of the machine
East Khandesh District				
1	Power boring machine ..	Jalgaon ..	Jalgaon ..	Deputy Director of Agriculture, N. C. D., Nasik.
2	Do. ..	Nerul ..	Raver ..	
West Khandesh District				
1	Power boring machine ..	Dhulia ..	Dhulia ..	Agricultural Engineer to Government, Poona.
Nasik District				
1	Power boring machine ..	Chakura ..	Nandgaon ..	District Local Board, Nasik.
Ahmednagar District				
1	Power boring machine ..	Ahmednagar ..	Ahmednagar ..	Agricultural Engineer to Government, Poona.
2	Hand boring machine ..	Loni Khurd ..	Sangamner ..	
3	Do. ..	Nevasa ..	Nevasa ..	
4	Do. ..	Vambori ..	Ahmednagar ..	
5	Do. ..	Rahuri ..	Rahuri ..	
6	Do. ..	Sarola ..	Ahmednagar ..	

Serial No.	Kind of boring machine	Place	Taluka	Name of the officer in charge of the machine
Poona District				Deputy Director of Agriculture, S. C. D., Poona.
1	Power boring machine	Khed	Khed	
2	Do.	Vadgaon	Mawal	
3	Do.	Yeravda	Haveli	
4	Do.	Poona	Haveli	
Sholapur District				
1	Power boring machine	Dongaon	Sholapur	Do.
Satara District				
1	Power boring machine	Uran-Islampur	Valva	Do.

N.B.—One power boring machine under the Deputy Director of Agriculture, N. C. D., Nasik, is at present under repairs at Nasik.

IRRIGATION IN THE DECCAN.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased—

(a) to state what action they have taken to increase irrigation in the Deccan on the lines outlined in the resolution passed by the Divisional Co-operative Conference held in Bombay in 1924;

(b) to place on the Council table the resolution and the correspondence that passed between the various officers of Government on this subject?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given to the question asked by Rao Bahadur R. R. Kale at the July session of 1927 and printed at page 85 of the Council Debates, Volume XX, Part I.

GOVERNMENT SERVICE: EX-SERVICES MEN.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the Government of India orders, Home Department, No. 1099, dated 8th August 1919, and Bombay Government, Government Resolution, General Department, No. 8008, dated 24th September 1919 under which unqualified candidates are considered as qualified for Government service;

(b) whether it is a fact that candidates especially those belonging to backward communities coming within the scope of these orders have been refused admission into Government service on the plea of being unqualified;

(c) what action they propose to take to ensure that Maratha and Muhammadan candidates are given special preference in the matter of appointments under the above orders?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : (a) The orders quoted sanction the grant of the following concessions in the matter of securing civil appointments under Government to those persons who have rendered service in connection with the prosecution of the Great War :

"First, no person shall be in any way prejudiced either in securing a civil appointment or in respect of seniority in such appointment by the fact that he has rendered service in the prosecution of the war or by the fact that his entry into civil employment has been delayed by such service ;

"Secondly, applications from persons who have rendered such service shall *ceteris paribus* receive preferential treatment in the matter of civil appointments under Government."

(b) No such cases have come to the notice of Government.

(c) None.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION : DISTURBANCES IN BOMBAY.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member Mr. Munshi has placed in my hands an adjournment motion, which I consider in order. I will read it out to the House. It says :

"I propose to move for adjournment of the business of the Council at the earliest opportunity for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the recent disturbances in Bombay".

The Standing Order on the point is, I think, peremptory ; at least I understand it like that. It says that the President shall intimate that the business of the Council will be adjourned at 4 o'clock for the purpose of discussing the motion. It must be interpreted that it is 4 o'clock on the day on which the motion is made. That is why I am anxious that the honourable member should ask for leave to move it on a day when both sides are ready. There is just one way out of it, if I may fall back upon my own powers in a difficulty like that, particularly if there is no opposition. The honourable member may ask for my leave again. By agreement we could postpone this. The honourable member knows that the motion is in order and he has my consent, and if by mutual agreement he could move it to-morrow or the day after, I will allow it. That is going beyond the Standing Order as it is. If there was any opposition to it, and I had to ask whether the House gave leave to the honourable member, I would have to ask honourable members to rise in their seats, and if leave was granted the motion must be discussed to-day at 4 p.m.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : Would it not be possible to postpone the matter ? I thought, Sir, honourable members desiring the motion to be discussed would be asked to stand up in their places.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That would have to be done, if there was opposition.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : The only reason why I was inclined to ask if the matter could be postponed is that, up to the present, everybody has been so busily engaged in the actual business of dealing with the troubles that there has not been time for the compilation of the report, the figures and other details which will be necessary to enable me to put the facts fully before the House in answer to this motion. If the Honourable the President would permit postponement to some

[Mr. J. E. B. Hotson]

other day, preferably next week—by which time I hope to have these figures ready—it would be very much more convenient to Government.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Could the honourable member give me some particular date?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: I think Tuesday next would be convenient. But I understand the preliminary procedure to be that a sufficient number of honourable members have to rise in their places to show that the honourable member has their leave.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I shall read the whole Standing Order. It says:

"If the President is of opinion that the proposed motion is in order, he shall read the motion to the Council and ask whether the Member has the leave of the Council. If objection is taken, the President shall request those Members who support the motion for adjournment to rise in their places; and if more than 30 Members rise accordingly, the President shall intimate that the business of the Council will be adjourned at 4 o'clock for the purpose of discussing the motion. If less than 30 Members rise, the President shall inform the Member that he has not the leave of the Council."

If the honourable member is not ready and if I carry out the procedure laid down, the adjournment must take place that evening at 4 o'clock. I say, therefore, if a mutual agreement is arrived at, I can follow the procedure entirely.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: The objection on the part of Government will be in order to ascertain whether a discussion should take place.

Mr. K. M. MUNSHI: If the honourable member wants time in order to place all the facts before the Council, we can postpone discussion. If the Honourable the Home Member wants time to collect facts to oppose the motion, then I am afraid I cannot give him time. He cannot have it both ways. Personally I was very anxious to accommodate the Honourable the Home Member. As a matter of fact four days ago we agreed with him not to bring on the motion till to-day; but now on this side honourable members are very anxious to bring on the motion. Personally, however, I do not want to inconvenience the Honourable the Home Member. If the motion can be brought on Monday or Tuesday we will have no objection on this side. But if it is done by agreement, I take it that there will be no opposition.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: If the motion is taken up on Tuesday, there is no objection.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: We will take this on Tuesday.

Mr. K. M. MUNSHI: At what time?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The whole procedure will have to be gone through.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT: Government will be at liberty to oppose.
(Government Benches: No, no).

(General Discussion of the Budget resumed)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: No.

Now as to the general discussion, honourable members who were not ready for discussion have kept themselves back. To-day a large

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number of honourable members will be desirous of taking part in the discussion. It is physically impossible for me to see every honourable member that stands up. Some honourable members who are desirous of taking part in the discussion may be left out as I shall have to stop discussion at 5 o'clock or a little later to give an opportunity to the Honourable the Finance Member so that he can finish his reply to the criticisms before 6 o'clock. I hope every honourable member will minimise his time as much as he can and give an opportunity to other honourable members who wish to address the House.

Rao Saheb D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District) : Sir, allow me to offer my hearty congratulations to the Honourable the Finance Member on his elevation to the Executive Council, especially in charge of the portfolio of finance which, as he described, is the engine room which supplies power to all departments of Government. That the budget is not satisfactory he has admitted. Now, the question before us is how to improve our finances. To my mind there are certain considerations which ought to weigh with us.

In my opinion the first thing to be done is to see that our revenues are expanded. Our revenue can be expanded in two ways. We must first try our best to see that the revision of the Meston Settlement is brought about on a satisfactory and equitable basis. In that connection I would like to say that the question is being enquired into by the Statutory Commission. So far as I can see from the tendency of the worthy Chairman of that Commission I feel confident that the question of Meston Settlement will receive equitable consideration at the hands of the Statutory Commission.

Then, Sir, the question of taxation arises. In that respect I would like to submit that before we suggest any further taxation we should first consider what is the earning capacity per head. Unless Government improve the condition of the people they have no right to say that the people should shoulder further taxation.

Then I would come to the second point, namely, the question of retrenchment and economy. It has been complained by the non-official members of this honourable House that the retrenchment axe has not been properly applied by Government and therefore Government ought to take sufficient care to see that proper retrenchment has been effected. If after effecting retrenchment to the best of their power Government come forward with proposals for additional taxation, the House will have different considerations before it. I suggest a committee of this honourable House consisting of officials and non-officials to go into the question of retrenchment and economy and after the appointment of such a committee let both the sides consider the question of retrenchment and economy in a good spirit and exchange mutual views and find out a solution. It may be argued on behalf of Government that non-official members are not in close touch with the various departments and therefore they will not be in a position to make constructive proposals. I do not think that such an argument has great force in it. In order to satisfy the non-officials that all possible

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avenues of retrenchment and economy have been explored, Government should accept my proposal of the appointment of a committee. After the appointment of the committee the non-official members should cooperate with Government, and try their best with good spirit and good will to make constructive proposals, so that some good will come out of it. After this is done the non-official members will have no ground to say that Government have not applied their pruning knife in all the various departments.

Then I come to another point. Before Government embark upon new works, especially huge works, I think they should use sufficient foresight. I am sorry to observe that Government of Bombay have spent money on the Back Bay and Development without much gain. It is no use now crying over spilt milk. I should suggest to Government that before they embark upon such huge schemes they should think twice. If the Government, instead of spending money on the Back Bay, had invested it in land mortgage banks they would have given long term loans to agriculturists and this would have gone a long way to improve the condition of the agriculturists and the prosperity of this presidency.

I now come to the question of the Forest Grievances Committee. It has been stated by the Honourable the Finance Member that the reasonable demands of the committee have been granted by Government. I may tell you, Sir, that all the non-official members that were working on that committee came to unanimous conclusions by way of a compromise. Even then I am sorry to observe that Government have not accepted many of their recommendations, and I hope that the present Minister of Agriculture, who is absent from here at present, will take into consideration all the grievances of the ryots and will carefully go into the question of the recommendations of the Forest Grievances Committee and do the needful.

Now, I will touch on one point and finish. I want to bring to the notice of this honourable House and especially of Government that some places in East Khandesh have been affected by hail-storms this year. Hail-storms have caused a lot of damage to the crops in the affected areas and the agriculturists there have suffered much. So this question should be gone into by the Commissioner of the Central Division. I appeal to Government to pay sufficient attention to this question and satisfy the ryots in respect of their demands for remission and suspension of land revenue. With these words, I close my speech.

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : Mr. President, before I reply to the various points raised in the debate in regard to my departments, I should like to make my position clear to this House. I am, Sir, the heir to the residue of a legacy which has been left to me by two of my illustrious friends in the shape of the Back Bay Reclamation and the Sukkur Barrage, but as a member of Government I do not shirk my responsibilities in regard to these departments.

As regards the Reclamation, I might tell the honourable members of his House that I have not been doing anything without referring the

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matter to the Standing Advisory Committee, and as a rule I have been following the advice of that Committee.

Certain points were raised in regard to the Industrial Housing Scheme, the Water Works Scheme and the Electric Scheme. In regard to the Industrial Housing Scheme, the point was raised that we get out of it Rs. 6,50,000 and we are spending on it Rs. 3,50,000. No doubt we are only getting Rs. 6,50,000 because most of the chawls are not occupied; but we must take into consideration the capital expenditure on these buildings. We have spent nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores on these chawls, and I think the expenditure of Rs. 3,50,000 for maintenance and repairs, various taxes in the shape of water tax, general tax, halalkhore tax, sanitary tax, and also on the clerks that we have appointed for collecting the rents and sweepers to keep the chawls sanitary, is not higher than any other land-lord would spend on a property for which he has paid $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores. However, in regard to this scheme and the water and electric schemes, I will carefully consider all the suggestions that have been made in this House.

Coming now to the Sukkur Barrage, I might inform the House that since I took charge nothing untoward has happened. Some of the speeches might have left an impression in the minds of honourable members that the estimates have been exceeded in my days. But honourable members of this House will remember that my predecessor had at the budget session last year already brought to their notice the excess of 1,68 lakhs. The total estimates he gave were 20 crores. I assure this honourable House that I have not allowed that amount to be exceeded by a single rupee, and I assure them that I will not allow that to be exceeded hereafter. There will be no necessity to exceed it, and if any necessity does arise, I will take this honourable House into my confidence. This 1,68 lakhs, which my honourable predecessor brought to their notice, was, as explained by him, to be spent on items which were all unforeseen, such as customs duty, rectangulation, revenue establishment, and so on.

An Honourable MEMBER: Customs duty was unforeseen?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: Yes; we were not charged for it before. They used to give us a refund.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI: You get the customs duty in another form now.

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: I do not think so.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: We do not get it now.

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: So, the honourable House will see that during the short time I have been in charge of this department the estimates have not been exceeded. In regard to every matter relating to the Sukkur Barrage, I wish to take this House into confidence. It is with that intention that I invited honourable members of this House to come and see the work for themselves; some of them accepted the invitation and visited the Barrage; and I have been repeating the

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invitation to the others. I invited not only the members of this honourable House but also the Press and all important associations, such as the Chambers of Commerce, the Millowners' Association and others. They have seen with their own eyes what is going on there.

Now, I come to the Fuleli improvement scheme which I am introducing in my own constituency to which I am very grateful. My honourable friend who comes from the same constituency stated that Government had promised the zamindars of Fuleli lands on the Sukkur Barrage. His statement was challenged by my honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji and he has not been able to produce evidence that such a promise was made to them. Had such an assurance been given to them, I would have been the first to advocate their cause. I have examined the assurances given to them by the late Honourable the General Member, the Chief Engineer and the various Governors, and I find that the promise was only that improvements would be made. And I have undertaken those improvements. I am sorry that my honourable friend from Hyderabad has let the cat out of the bag. I did not know that his eyes were on the Sukkur Barrage. If he wants Government to carry out their promise, I am ready to do so, and I have introduced that scheme. He says this scheme will not succeed. I assure this House that it will succeed. The present cultivation done on the Fuleli is 4 lakhs odd acres, out of which the kharif cultivation at present is 3,26,651 acres, out of which some portion is rice and the rest ordinary kharif. At present, the maximum water they get is 10,000 cusecs, but after the Barrage we are going to let in into the Fuleli Canal 1,500 more cusecs, and the area of cultivation will be 3,50,000 instead of 3,26,000. Besides carrying out the promise made by Government to the zamindars, we have to meet the grievances of the people at the tail. We have heard only the voices of the honourable members at the head. I admit that both the people, people at the head and people at the tail, should be saved from suffering. But after the Sukkur Barrage comes into operation, the people at the tail who are now having rabi will not get water for rabi; therefore, we are trying to give them water for the kharif with these improvements.

Now my honourable friend made only one constructive suggestion. He said, have another barrage for the sake of the Fuleli. But that is outside the pale of practical politics for the present. (Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram: Why?). I would be only too happy if the honourable House voted the money. Will the Government of India and the Secretary of State agree? Hardly have we finished one barrage, when we are asked to launch another barrage at the cost of some crores of rupees! Even suppose this honourable House gives the money, the preparation of plans and estimates and the sanction of the Government of India and the Secretary of State will take a number of years, and by the time all this takes place, my honourable friend from the Hyderabad constituency will come round and say "Give us lands on the Sukkur Barrage".

MR. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: How many years will that be?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : It is a big scheme ; there are absolutely no data at present.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : About ten years, fifteen years ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : Well, I can't tell the honourable member exactly. If the honourable House is prepared to part with land on the Sukkur Barrage, I will be only too happy. I will on the contrary be grateful to them.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED : Will Government bring forward a proposal ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : The honourable member may move a resolution.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED : But you will not do it.

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : Now, Sir, I come to my honourable friend representing the Karachi city Mahomedan constituency, who has been making insinuations against officials. He wants Indians, and I might tell him now the Chief Engineer of the Back Bay Reclamation is an Indian, who was some time back our colleague in this House, and who enjoys the confidence of every one. Yet he persists in making insinuations. He has made insinuations against other officers, and I have been requesting him to adduce evidence or take me into confidence ; I am ready to prosecute or to have an investigation into the matter. But he shirks his duty. Sir, when we dismiss or prosecute some of the officers for corruption, then these disgruntled people, in order to gain their object, first use persuasion, failing that threats, then a campaign of vilification through their influential relations and friends. Am I terrorising or am I being terrorised and my department ?

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED : I wish you were, Sir.

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : My honourable friend started an attack on the two Mahomedan members of this Cabinet. I might tell him I plead guilty to his charge that I have not fulfilled all his expectations, I have not carried out his behests, because I have brought this scheme, which I say is in the interests of the zamindars of the Fuleli and I do not help him in getting barrage lands. If the Government gives the lands I will be quite pleased.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED : You are Government.

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : I am one of the Members of Government, and I cannot be a party to such an action when the promises are simply to improve the canal. So, no doubt, if I have not fulfilled his expectations, there is no wonder about it. But looking to the Muslim Minister, he is dissatisfied even with him who enjoys a reputation of being a good Muslim Minister for reasons best known to him.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED : Not known to you ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : They are known to me. Now, Sir, I might say a word in regard to the alleged " terrorism ", and

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I put it to this honourable House whether I am being terrorised and my department is being terrorised, or whether I and my department are terrorising. My honourable friend has been speaking to me and writing to me in praise of the European officers of my department; he always fraternises with the European officers of the Public Works Department, Mr. Rae, Mr. Menesse, Mr. Haines, Mr. Francis and others. He simply showers encomiums upon them, and I am grateful to him for that. And he even wants me to have every running canal put in charge of an European officer, and he has often told me and written to me that he does not want Indianisation at all. He says even let him be publicly ridiculed for that. So, I submit that my European officers of the Public Works Department are not terrorising people; otherwise he would not have bestowed all those encomiums on them. There is scarcely any Mahomedan officer. Then there remain only my Hindu friends. But he has never brought to my notice a single instance where he has been terrorised or anybody else has been terrorised by them. On the contrary, I have been terrorised by the thunder of his eloquence.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED : On a point of order. Is it relevant, Sir, or do you consider it right that a letter written in private capacity and in confidence should be divulged by an honourable member of Government when he is criticised with regard to a certain item in the budget? I want your ruling, because I think it is necessary. On the one side you hear an honourable member of Government say "Please take us into confidence; do not shirk from your duty", and, on the other hand, much is made of the Hindus and Mahomedans, that there are X, Y, Z.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not see anything in the rules or standing orders or the practice of the Council against it. Only it does not appear to be the right thing to do; but there is nothing against it in the rules. The Honourable the General Member can be asked to produce the letter, but matters may be made worse if the honourable member insists that the letter be read out.

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : I would point out that it was not a private letter, not marked confidential. This is a complaint he has sent me. He talks of "officers of the department"; he says "my constituents have come to me and have complained to me".

Now he turns round and talks of terrorisation. He wants European officers, he does not want Indianisation, and I want to find out who is terrorising?

Then, Sir, there is scarcely a Mahomedan. My Hindu friends must then be terrorising, but he has never brought that complaint to me although he knows that I am a responsible Member of Government. I have to hold the balance even, whether an officer is a Hindu or a Mahomedan or a Parsi or a Christian. I have to mete out justice evenly to all. Because I would not carry out his behest and because I would not drive out all the Hindus from the Running Canals Divisions, therefore I am told that I am terrorising. Is that fair? Who is being terrorised? I am being terrorised; and my Public Works Department officers are being terrorised.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Sir, I regret to find that the first born of my honourable friend the Finance Member shows lineaments in no way different from or better than those of the offspring which his two immediate predecessors brought into existence. The budget which he has presented is so colourless, so uninviting, so barren, so unpromising that one might well wonder what good purpose could be served by a general discussion thereon. In outward appearance, no doubt, the Honourable the Finance Member's speech shows some novel features. It looks as if the Honourable the Finance Member has been briefed by the Honourable Ministers to show to the British Government and to the Simon Commission that they are angels who have performed miracles in spite of the constantly embarrassing and annoying restrictions put in their way by the arch-devil of the Meston Settlement. I am afraid, however, that even this function has not been properly discharged by the Honourable the Finance Member. He could well have advised his clients that any reference to the so-called progress in the department of education, however brief, would be so utterly ridiculous that it had better be left out altogether from the picture which he has attempted to delineate. My honourable friend the Honourable the Finance Member seems to share the feeling of satisfaction felt by his friends at his very happy and lucky elevation to the office of Finance Member. Our friends, in the sheer spirit of friendship, are apt to praise us, and even to flatter us when really we deserve no praise whatever, and though I may assure my honourable friend that he may rely on my co-operation and sympathy in the performance of his difficult task, I take the opportunity of impressing upon him and his friends the fact that the times are gone by when the occupancy of a particular office is in itself a source of self-satisfaction, personal or national, and that the time is come when our office and our position must be strictly justified by sincere, firm and courageous efforts to bring about concrete and substantial results. My great and earnest hope is that his tenure of office as Finance Member will be marked by such results and that he will not content himself with merely tinkering with the financial problems of the Presidency but that he will face that problem and urge his colleagues in the Government to face it with enlightened and courageous statesmanship. What, Sir, are the elements of that problem ? The first and fundamental element is that we must find out 2 or 3 crores of rupees more than our present revenue. How can that be done ? There must no doubt be some scope for economy and retrenchment, but, believer though I am in the actual creed of Peace, Economy and Reform, I do not think that our expenditure can now be reduced to any substantial extent. We are clamouring for the revision of the Meston Settlement. That revision may come, but I am doubtful whether it will benefit our revenues to the extent which is absolutely necessary for a proper and equitable development of our province.

The introduction of compulsory primary education as rapidly as possible is our first need. Without it our progress in every sphere of national life is being arrested. That alone will require at least a crore of rupees every year. The no less clamant needs of rural uplift on the lines laid down (and rightly laid down) by the Royal Agricultural Commission

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will require large funds. Whence is all this money to come? And here comes the basic fact of our financial position. The problems which face us *must* be solved if we want to become, as we ought to become, one of the great, progressive, self-governing nations of the world. And it is impossible to do so if you refuse to face or wilfully shut your eyes to the problem of taxation. My charge against Government, including the Ministers, is that they *will* not face this problem with courage, though they are fully conscious of the existence of the problem and the utmost necessity of facing it and so readjusting our whole scheme of taxation that we shall obtain as much revenue as we require. Taxation may be unpopular but you cannot govern if you are not prepared at times to incur unpopularity. I am convinced that our whole financial system is defective, that a new and better system can be devised which will yield the requisite funds without adding to the burdens of those in whose case there is no margin left for further taxation. But the fact is that Government are lacking in economic and financial knowledge; and further they are lacking in that courage which is necessary for a satisfactory solution of the problem. And they are lacking in that courage, partly from the nature of the Government, which is still largely not indigenous, and still non-national, and which is responsible only to a very limited extent. Either the necessary measure of courage must be summoned in spite of this character of Government or the Government itself must become as wholly and quickly responsible as possible. These are the only two possible alternatives and a choice between them *must* be made if the Government are to fulfil the purposes the realisation of which can alone entitle them to continued respect and confidence.

There is another note of warning which I wish to sound on the present occasion. The impression is gaining ground that the Executive is losing in efficiency, that the administration is becoming sluggish, that the fibre of its sense of duty is weakening. I hope this impression is really not justified, but it is an impression for which no ground whatever ought to be given. I appeal to the Ministers, in particular, to combine efficiency with responsibility. This means hard study, strenuous industry, quick decision, a strong will and prompt action. These are the general observations which I am impelled to make on the present occasion.

Coming to specific matters, I wish briefly to refer to the deplorable events that recently took place in this city, and I refer to them just to say that, in my opinion, a thorough, independent and impartial enquiry into the matter in all its aspects is absolutely necessary and desirable, and must not be shirked. It is better to know and face the truth, whatever it may be, than to resort to a hush-hush policy. Many people are wondering what has happened to the capacity of Government to deal promptly and effectively with the forces of disorder, and how in that case the present Government can be differentiated from its predecessors which our commonplace histories describe as almost revelling in disorder and chaos.

I fully appreciate the decision to appoint a Royal Commission on labour. The present situation as regards Labour and Capital *must*

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be ended ; and the problem, in my judgment, can only be solved by the maintenance of good relations between our industrial magnates and workers. I am no believer in Fascism, but I have studied the Labour Charter proclaimed by Sgr. Mussolini, and I am inclined to think that the lines which it lays down would be very helpful in solving our own labour problems.

As regards Land Revenue, I can speak a lot on the subject, but I shall content myself with only one observation, and that is that an enquiry into the economic effects of our land revenue system is urgently called for. The problem of rural uplift in all its fulness and details necessarily involves a consideration of the economic effects of the system. I am glad that no less a journal than the *Times of India* is strongly in favour of such an enquiry, and I understand that a resolution asking for such enquiry into the systems of land revenue assessments obtaining in different provinces has been tabled in the Council of State by my esteemed friend the Honourable Sir Pheroze Sethna. I have every hope that our Government will welcome such an enquiry.

To sum up, in my humble judgment, the situation calls for, first, such liberalisation of the constitution as will secure the support of the majority of the Indian electorate ; secondly, a courageous and steady pursuit of reform in every department, and vigorous administration ; thirdly, hearty co-operation between the Government and the legislature in such revision of the financial system as would yield ample funds for carrying out the necessary reforms, even by additional taxation.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Is it vigour or rigour ?

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : Vigour, also rigour. It is in the fulfilment of these conditions that India and this province can attain its highest development.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Mr. President, there are a few points which have arisen in the course of this debate bearing on the departments with which I am concerned and to which I should like to make a brief reference. In the first place, several honourable members have referred to the recent calamity of the severe frost which has overtaken a large part of Gujarat and a portion of the Central Division. I understand that, at a later stage of this session, the whole question will be raised by a motion for the adjournment of the House to discuss the situation arising from these losses, and I am not therefore going to speak now at any length on this subject. I should prefer to reserve myself for the time when that discussion arises, and when I shall have more information in my possession than I have at the present moment. But I wish to inform the House that I am in consultation with the Commissioner of the Northern Division and the Commissioner of the Central Division, for considering in what respects we should make any departure from the ordinary rules governing suspensions and remissions of land revenue in order to meet the present situation, and then I have every desire to deal with the situation in as sympathetic a spirit as

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possible, consistently with my obligations as the custodian of the land revenues of this Presidency. Reference has been made to the necessity for takavi grants, in order to enable the cultivators to resume operations next season, and I undertake that, so far as it is possible, we shall meet all reasonable demands in this respect.

The honourable member from Ahmedabad made a complaint that in the North Daskroi taluka the land revenue instalments which are due in two instalments.—I understand that they are due on the 5th of January and 5th of March—had been forcibly recovered from the cultivators in a single instalment. As a matter of fact, I doubt very much whether any pressure was put on the people to pay their land revenue in a single instalment. It is well-known that many people prefer to do so, simply to avoid the trouble incidental to paying it in two instalments. But I can give this assurance to the honourable member, that the mere fact that these people have paid their second instalment before this calamity overtook them will not in any way prejudice any claims that they may have to a suspension or remission of land revenue. I give this undertaking, and I hope that this honourable House will accept it.

My honourable friend the representative of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce raised the question of the prospects of receipts from sales of land on the Sukkur Barrage. He suggested that it would be advisable if Government were to put forward at an early date a statement showing the receipts they hope to recover. At the present moment, as stated in the Honourable the Finance Member's budget statement, the Revenue Officer is engaged in preparing a revised programme of sales. We have not followed the programme which was put forward at the time when the project was sent up for sanction by the Secretary of State. We have departed considerably from that programme, because we came to the conclusion that to sell land largely in advance of the advent of the Barrage irrigation would be a great mistake, as it would result in these lands being sold at a heavy discount. However, we have quite recently undertaken the sale of a comparatively small area of land, 1,452 acres to be accurate, because this land was considered saleable in that it could be cultivated immediately by means of the existing inundation canals, and therefore there was no risk of the sale proceeds being very much depreciated. The results of these sales have been most encouraging. The whole of the 1,452 acres were sold for Rs. 1,59,000, and out of this, I might mention there were 178 acres which were so bad that at first there was no idea of putting them up to auction at all. However, on second thoughts, this land was included in the sales, and it fetched an average of Rs. 50 an acre. The balance of the land sold fetched an average of Rs. 120 an acre, the highest price being Rs. 250 an acre.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: Who constituted most of the purchasers?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: Mostly Punjabis. I shall refer to this later. As compared with Mr. Baker's estimate of Rs. 150 as an average price for A land—that is to say, the best land—the prices actually fetched were from Rs. 100 to Rs. 175 an acre. Mr. Baker's estimate for

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B land was only Rs. 50, whereas we have obtained prices ranging from Rs. 50 to Rs. 150. So, the result of the sales is extremely satisfactory, especially in view of the fact that at the time the demand for land was restricted on account of the large sales of fallow-forfeited lands at concessionary rates that had been made recently in that part of the province, and the fact that it was known to the people that some 25,000 acres of fallow forfeited land were shortly going to be regranted in that very same taluka. Naturally this had the effect of preventing local purchasers from coming into the auction. Therefore the bidders were largely confined to Punjabi settlers on Jamrao Canal or Punjabis from the Punjab. I think we are entitled to say that the results of this experimental sale, undertaken to gauge the market, have been most satisfactory.

My honourable friend from Hyderabad referred to the question of railway projects and I think there is some justification in his complaint that the Bombay Presidency is comparatively backward in regard to the undertaking of smaller railway projects and feeder railways. While, as I say, there is some justification for that complaint, the fact is that, although we have recommended a large number of projects to the railway administrations or the Railway Board, we are in the majority of cases confronted with the reply that this or that project is not a paying one and cannot therefore be undertaken without a guarantee. To some extent this is probably justified. Railway construction is certainly an expensive business in the Deccan owing to the configuration of the country and further to the fact that it is largely provided with good road communications which brings in the question of motor traffic into consideration. But at the same time we are not satisfied that our proposals are being dealt with justly, that is to say, with a full appreciation of all the facts. That is why we have appointed a special officer who will go into the traffic side of each project with a greater knowledge of the local conditions than the railway officer who is ordinarily engaged on these investigations and who will be able to supply full and accurate statistics regarding any project to which we attach importance. I only saw yesterday the first report sent in by this officer which dealt with the Manmad-Malegaon project which the Railway Administration had turned down on the ground that it was not a paying one. This report furnishes us with grounds for urging that the whole question should be reconsidered by the Railway Administration. We are communicating that report to the Railway Administration and we trust that they will revise their opinion with regard to this project. It is a project which that portion of the Presidency concerned is most anxious to see carried out. My honourable friend referred to the Chhor-Jhudo project. That is one which has not come up to me and which has not been definitely formulated. In any case we could not consider it at the present moment because it is likely to cover ground which might very probably be covered by the alignment of the direct Sind-Bombay connection. As regards this connection, we attach great importance to it. But it is a difficult question. The shortest route that could be followed is one

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that traverses through a country which is sparsely inhabited and very expensive for railway construction. There are other factors in the case which contribute to increase the difficulty of the problem. However, we are addressing the Railway Board on the subject, and I hope that some advance will be made towards the solution of the question which is rightly regarded as one of great importance to the interests of this Presidency.

Dr. M. D. GILDER (Bombay City, North): Sir, in the discussion and the deliberations that have been going on for the last two days, one side has complained that the budget is a puzzle and the other side has complained that the criticism levelled against the budget is inapt and irrelevant. I think the general discussion of the budget is merely meant to give to the House the general impression of the members as to how they have been struck by these two bulky volumes thrown at their heads by the Finance Department shortly before the opening of the session. In return for that courtesy members on this side of the House claim it as their privilege—Nay their inalienable right—to use whatever sort of stick they can get hold of to beat the Government with. In the confusion of the profusion of papers one finds on one's desk and in one's pigeon hole at the commencement of the session, I came across a single page leaflet—as no other honourable members have referred to it, I am sure it must have escaped their notice—on Bolshevik propaganda. It is entitled “For the Legislative Council” and emanates from the Revenue Department of the Government of Bombay. It says that charas is being illicitly obtained in Bombay and therefore the sale of charas ought to be made legal. It says that the Bhils in Khandesh cannot be convinced that it is wrong for them to obtain illicit liquor and therefore let them obtain licit liquor. In order to make available licit liquor they should open 17 more shops. Not only that, the ration to which they have been kept should also be increased. And then it says: “Government anticipate that if a reasonable increase in the number of shops in other districts is similarly sanctioned.....”—not only for the Bhils who consider that there is no difference between illicit and licit liquor, but in other districts also more shops may be opened—more revenue may be obtained. And look at the bait that is thrown out to us! We are told that the transferred departments are starved, and if they get this revenue they will hand it over to the transferred departments. That, Sir, is the same old, old story: when the money goes into the pockets of the Honourable the Finance Member he says “How can I distinguish between one rupee and another, between one note and another?” and the whole thing goes into the general revenues of Government. (An honourable member: What about the Entertainments Tax?). I say, Sir, that this is a piece of Bolshevik propaganda. My reasons, Sir, will be evident if we look at this:

“It is entirely beyond the present resources of the excise authorities and of the police to put an end to the traffic in the drug.”

and therefore legalise the traffic in the drug! Suppose the Honourable the Home Member employs the same argument—it was for sometime

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entirely beyond the resources of the police to put an end to the riots in Bombay ; therefore, let a man pay a riot tax and let him go and riot to his heart's content—would not that be a piece of Bolshevism ? This is the Bolshevism that is being practised in the department of the Honourable Minister of Excise—I beg his pardon—Minister of Agriculture (I had forgotten that liquor stinks, more especially country liquor)—I certainly appreciate that our position in regard to foreign liquor is anomalous and the Excise Department has got difficulties in its way in connection with foreign liquor ; but that is no reason why we should take a Bolshevik attitude—because we are not able to control what is illegal, therefore remove it from our Penal Code and make it legal. This bugbear of illicit distillation has been raised every time Government wanted to increase revenue. If you reduce the number of shops people will take to illicit distillation ; and if you stop illicit distillation, people will resort to drugs. That is the argument. If you can stop cocaine can you not stop other drugs too ? Then, Sir, another argument is that liquor has become dear, and therefore the labourer has to pay more for his liquor ; make it cheaper and he will pay less. In this honourable House there are representatives of labour ; let us see what they have to say in this matter. I think their point of view will deserve more consideration than the point of view put forward by the excise authorities. I understand that auction sales have been postponed—I may be wrong, I am open to correction—and a good deal of raw material has been stored in the Nasik distillery in anticipation of this Council relaxing its policy of prohibition. I hope when the Excise vote comes up for discussion this Council will show definitely that it is not amenable to Bolshevik propaganda of any kind.

Now, let me come to something in connection with another department, I mean the department which is presided over by the Minister of Education. I will confine myself to one branch over which he presides, and that is the Medical Department. The Honourable Minister has made provision in the Blue Book for a Dental College and Hospital to be opened in Bombay. We welcome the addition of greater facilities and more instruction for relieving human suffering. We do congratulate the Honourable Minister on the step he has taken, but at the same time look at what he has done ! So far, the policy of Government has been to encourage honorary medical service and appoint honorary medical officers in Government hospitals. In opening this new hospital he has proposed that the Professor of Dental Anatomy and Materia Medica should get Rs. 600, when he is perfectly aware that the Professor of Materia Medica in the Grant Medical College, who is concerned with the cure of the ills of the whole body, is receiving only Rs. 300. The gentleman who has got to deal with the materia medica of one part, the tooth, is to get Rs. 600, whereas the gentleman who has to deal with the cure of the whole body is to get only Rs. 300. Whereas the Professor of Bacteriology in the Grant Medical College, who has to do with all parts of the body, gets only Rs. 200, the Professor of Dental Histology and Bacteriology is to get Rs. 400. The Honourable the Minister of Education,

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through the secondary school lecturers whom he employs teaches in our schools the postulate of Euclid that the whole is greater than its part : with the help of the technical experts of the Medical department he wishes to teach us that the part is greater than the whole ! I think there is a provision in the Devolution Rules for having Council Secretaries, and I think the department which is in great need of having outside professional assistance and outside technical expert advice is the department over which the Honourable Minister presides. He is a layman ; he does not know the professional technicalities of the department over which he presides, and it is therefore absolutely necessary for him, I maintain, to have either Council Secretaries or other experts from outside to guide him and to put the case before him.

Sir, there are certain other provisions which are made in the Blue Book, for example, a provision for the supply of nurses to certain hospitals where Europeans will be admitted under the Lee Commission proposals. I have no objection to any measure brought forward with a view to give better medical relief, but will the Honourable Minister look to some of our district hospitals and at least give them, if not nurses, instruments which are a little more modern than those made 70 years or more ago ?

Sir, the honourable member the Finance Secretary yesterday in making his speech said that statistics are dangerous things. May I draw his attention to a report called "Report on the Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries" which proves his contention ? It is full of 200 pages of statistics, and they are wonderful statistics ! Take the first figures we come across. The honourable Minister of the Department will kindly note it. "There were in the Presidency 11,000 cases of cholera, out of which only 199 people died". Sir, I should like to ask the Honourable Minister who were the experts who treated cholera with a mortality of less than 2 per cent ? Then, Sir, look at some of the other figures that are given there. The Surgeon General says that there was an epidemic of cholera in the Satara, Sholapur, Bijapur, Belgaum and Dharwar districts, and we find, that whilst Bombay doctors treated 174 cases of cholera and failed to save 28, the doctors in Sholapur, where there was an epidemic, treated 532 cases of cholera with a single death ! May we ask that the experts from that locality be sent over to Bombay to teach us ! Then, Sir, take plague. In Bombay hospitals 71 cases of plague were treated with 60 deaths ; in Dharwar 121 cases of plague were treated with only 6 deaths. Then, Sir, look at another part of the statistics ! They really show that statistics are dangerous things. They have treated in the dispensaries in the districts 495 cases of abnormal labour as out-door patients without a single mortality—abnormal labour as out-door patients without a single mortality. I do not know how they managed that. Then, look at other statistics put forward ! They have treated 298 cases of plague, 10,000 cases of pneumococcal infection, 28,000 cases of rheumatic fever and 429 cases of small-pox as out-door patients in the district dispensaries without a single mortality. Do not these statistics bring credit to the department over which the Honourable Minister presides ? Then, various statements have been given—

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statements headed "A", "B", "C", "D", etc. There is a dispensary at Bhayndar; that dispensary contains six beds; and during the whole year they treated one in-door patient! There is a dispensary at Mokhada, where there are 5 beds for the occupation of patients all the year round, and they treated 8 in-patients during the whole year. There is a dispensary at Chacha which contains 4 beds, and they treated 1 patient during the whole year. But, Sir, Sind takes the credit. There is a dispensary at Matari, which has no beds, and they treated 10 in-patients. Where they kept them, whether they suspended them in the air or kept them on the roof, or what, I do not know. There is another dispensary at Digri with no beds. They treated 30 in-patients.

An Honourable MEMBER: Treated them under the ground?

Dr. M. D. GILDER: I do not know. I ask the Honourable Minister in charge of Medical Department, the Finance Secretary and the Honourable the Finance Member, is it really worth while publishing statistics like this—a big book of 200 pages, giving such misleading and absurd information? Then, Sir, not only does it give mis-information, but it also goes so far as to insult a class of men who are serving the Government to the best of their ability. It says:

"The system of appointing honorary officers to the Hospitals has been continued and somewhat extended. It is of undoubted benefit to the honorary officers themselves, but no definite pronouncement can yet be made as to its value from the point of view of the patient and the medical student."

May I ask the Honourable Minister, on what grounds he is going to support this argument, whether he has made enquiries in the matter or is it the personal opinion of the Surgeon-General, who is the head of the service that is losing the posts which got these honorary men. This appeared in the papers somewhere in January. Four days afterwards there was another paragraph in the papers giving an interview with Sir John Bland Sutton, formerly Senior Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital, the founder of the Bland Sutton Cancer Research Institute, who, when asked his opinion on the matter, said that the honorary officers' system was the system which had brought the great English hospitals to the position which they occupy to-day and he was glad that that system was being introduced at the Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy Hospital, the premier hospital of this presidency. And here comes a report signed by the high officer of Government who is in charge of the medical administration, who says the system benefits the honorary medical officers themselves, but he is doubtful whether it benefits the patients or the students: Sir, the honourable member the Finance Secretary gave us yesterday very interesting figures—I am afraid I have not got a head for figures—in which he told us how the surplus has been utilised in regard to the various departments. But may I ask him how much of that surplus has been utilised for the incremental salaries and allowances of the member of the various services in the departments?

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Lastly, Sir, I will just refer to one other point before I conclude. The Honourable the Finance Member on page 14 of his speech says :

" The primary duty of Government is to preserve law and order and to see that justice is done between man and man. A Government which fails in this primary duty had better abdicate. "

May I ask that these words be read, marked, learnt and inwardly digested by the Honourable the Home Member ?

Mr. N. B. CHANDRACHUD (Poona City) : Mr. President, I know there are many claimants on the time of this House, and I shall try to be as brief as I possibly can. My first important duty is to offer my hearty congratulations to the Honourable the Finance Member. He is the first mofussil lawyer, at any rate from the Maharashtra, who has gained admission in the Cabinet and has the honour of holding the portfolio of finance. I also congratulate him, Sir, upon the lucid way in which he has presented the budget and especially upon the general review or summary he has given of the progress of the various departments of Government. Sir, the finances of this presidency are admittedly in a very unsatisfactory condition, whatever might be the reasons for this unsatisfactory condition. The reasons may be errors of judgment or unwise speculation. It is no use repeating the same fact, because everybody in this House is tired of it and the fact is repeated so often in this hall. But the admission is there that the finances of this presidency are in a very unsatisfactory condition and they are also in a very stagnant condition, and our revenues are just sufficient to meet our expenditure. In this condition of affairs, the criticisms we are expected to make are also bound to be stereotyped. My honourable friend started with a handicap in his favour and that handicap was that unlike his predecessor he has not to pay to the Government of India Rs. 56 and 63 lakhs under the Devolution rules 17 and 29 ! I should have expected that the amount which he had saved would have been utilised in spending upon education or some other nation-building departments, or at any rate that he would have shown a bigger surplus. But we are told that the amount was absorbed by the loss of revenue in excise and the losses on account of the Back Bay Reclamation and Development Scheme. Now, the principal sources of our revenue, Sir, are land revenue, stamps and excise. They contribute nearly 70 per cent. of our revenue and under these three heads I see no possible sign of increase, at any rate for some time to come. For the last 15 years and more not only public men like the late Honourable Mr. Gokhale or the late Mr. Joshi, but even Government officers themselves have admitted in their reports that the rigidity of the land revenue demand does not leave any margin for the agriculturist. But in spite of this fact we find that the land revenue has nearly doubled itself during the course of the last 30 years. In 1900 it was about 3 crores, now it is more than 5 crores and every year we find that it is steadily increasing and increasing. We know that the margin of profit left in agriculture is absolutely going down and down, whether in dry farming, or in sugarcane cultivation or in any other crop. We

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find that the cost of labour has gone up, that prices have gone down, and the price which an agriculturist gets for his produce is hardly sufficient to meet his cost of production, the cost of bringing his produce to the market, let alone the cost of the maintenance of himself and his family and the money required to pay his creditors. Irrigation also has not proved an unmixed blessing. On account of irrigation the soil is becoming poorer and poorer and getting more and more exhausted and we find that the lands which are irrigated by canal water are fetching smaller rents. Not only that but it is becoming difficult day by day to find cultivators to take these lands on lease. I know of several young men, graduates of Agriculture, who were ambitious to eke out an independent living out of agriculture, who went to Kopergaon and other places served by canals, but who have almost given up hopes of making their ventures a success, because the margin of profit, the cost of labour, the cost of marketing are such that it is well nigh impossible to make anything out of agriculture.

The Honourable the Finance Member has taken note of the damage done by frosts, but I believe that members of Government know that a great deal of damage is done by a kind of insect in some talukas of the Poona district. The people there are more afraid of these insects than even of locusts. Locusts make their appearance only periodically, but these insects stick to the place and are devastating the crops. Their ravages are spreading from one village to another. I bring this matter to the serious notice of the Department concerned so that they may take immediate action before it is too late.

Coming to primary education, we find that the Honourable the Finance Member states in his speech that in 1920 there were 12,714 primary schools and 540 secondary schools, and that in 1928 the number of primary schools had risen to 14,373 and secondary schools to 570. I do not think these are figures on which Government can congratulate themselves. In the year 1911-12 the Government had laid down a programme of opening at least 500 schools every year and they were taken to task by Sir Pherozeshah Mehta because only 370 schools were opened when the programme was for 500 schools. Opening 1,600 schools in the course of eight years is not very creditable.

Lastly, with regard to the proposal of increasing fees, I am really astounded at this proposal. Last year, when a proposal was before this House, the Honourable present Minister of Education (the Honourable Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad) made a speech strongly and severely criticising that proposal. His speech is still ringing in my ears. He it was who said that when these proposals once came before the House they were turned down and I am really surprised that he himself, who once was the foremost in raising his voice against the proposals, should now be a party to such proposals simply because he has been transferred to the opposite benches. That may perhaps show the calibre of our Honourable Ministers.

With regard to the working of co-operative societies, I may also be permitted to point out certain facts. I know that I am speaking with

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diffidence and with certain limitations, but the working of co-operative societies, especially in rural areas, is not all that is to be desired. In the first place, the Co-operative Societies Act gives unlimited powers to arbitrators and also to the Registrar. I may almost call those powers Martial Law powers. They are not tied down by any procedure, by any evidence, or by anything. There is no appeal, no safeguard to interfere with the decision of the Registrar or the proceedings before the Registrar. The Registrar forwards the decree to the Collector who, under the vast and wide powers given to him by the Land Revenue Code, takes drastic action. Even the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act cannot send an agriculturist to jail, but under the Co-operative Societies Act, if the Registrar sends his decree to the Collector, the Collector can execute it by forfeiting the property of the defaulter and send him to jail on top of that. In the case of Urban Societies the members of which are Government servants whose income is fixed and comes to them regularly, the case is different, but in the case of agriculturists whose income from the soil is variable, they should not, for the mere fault of non-payment at the proper time, be sent to jail just because they have not been punctual in payment.

Now, one more word and I have done. The official receiver of the High Court draws an income of more than ten thousand rupees a month and his income is, I am told, more than two lakhs a year. You can get any District Judge or a competent Barrister to fill that post with credit at a much lower salary, but for some reason or other that post is not abolished.....

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: The late occupant of that post has retired and it is about to be made a salaried post.

Mr. N. B. CHANDRACHUD: I am glad of that explanation.

One of the worst offenders in the matter of expenditure is, if I may be permitted to say so, the Public Works Department. Take, for instance, the new court buildings in such a small place as Poona. They cost nearly 20 lakhs. Look at the skill of the architect who designed those buildings; look at the skill of the engineers who built them; look at the skill of Government who sanctioned that huge expenditure on massive buildings which have proved in point of fact quite unsuited either to the public or to the judiciary, let alone the practitioners who do not seem to count for anything. Now Government are trying to bring in some other offices into those buildings. Where was the necessity for all this waste of money? With these few remarks, I resume my seat.

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI: Sir, yesterday my honourable friend Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram accused the Ministers of allowing the reserved side of Government to overreach the transferred side and not having their just quota for the transferred departments. He said that while in Madras and Bengal they enjoyed a larger proportion of the revenues of the province for the transferred departments, in Bombay the Ministers were satisfied with only 22·86 per cent. With reference to that, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of my

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honourable friend as well as of the other honourable members of this House to pages 20-21 of the White Book. On page 21 we have the revised estimate for 1928-29, and there the total of the estimate is shown as Rs. 15,98,81,000, and that amount is distributed in the second column between the reserved and transferred departments; and if the total is made as I have made it, the reserved side has Rs. 10,44,49,000, while the transferred side has Rs. 5,54,32,000, which makes a percentage of 34·6.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: I had meant to refer to the nation-building departments, and not the transferred departments. I am sorry I do not consider Excise as a nation-building department; it is a nation-destroying department.

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI: It would have been better if my honourable friend had made himself clear. He wants to take Excise out. Then irrigation may be included, suggests the Honourable the Finance Member; in that case, the percentage at which he arrived would not be a correct percentage. With reference to next year's budget estimates, on page 20 we have the total of Rs. 16 crores, and the distribution between the transferred and reserved departments works out at 35·4 per cent. for the transferred departments. So, I would draw the attention of the House to the fact that the impression which was created by my honourable friend yesterday was not a correct impression. I do not mean to say that the Ministers are satisfied with what they get for their departments. They are anxious to have as much as possible. I am anxious, as Minister for Local Self-government, to get as much for road grants and other grants to local bodies, and my honourable colleagues are also anxious to have as much for their own departments, for the expansion of primary education and for medical relief in rural areas, and for more money for agriculture. So that, the impression which was left by my honourable friend by the remarks that he made yesterday was an unwarranted impression, and I want to correct it.

One other point was made by the honourable member from Ahmednagar, with reference to the policy of entrusting to the local bodies provincial works of public utility for carrying them out. The House knows that certain provincial works, buildings and roads, were transferred to the Ahmednagar district local board for carrying them out, as an experiment. That happened in 1923, and that experiment has gone on for about 5 years; and then the question came up before Government as to whether the experiment should be continued or not. On examination, it was found that as long as there is no cadre of competent engineers from which engineers could be recruited by district local boards and as long as more district local boards did not undertake to do this work, Government is put to a loss. They have to pay percentage charges to the district local board which carries out the work, and they have also to maintain their permanent establishment.

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In Ahmednagar they have to maintain a sub-division for the purpose of looking after and controlling the work. That entails a loss. The complaint of my honourable friend from Ahmednagar was that it brings discredit to the local board if Government discontinue the entrusting of such works to it. Government did not mean. I may assure my honourable friend, any distrust of the local board concerned. But the question is one of loss to Government as long as the policy cannot be brought into full operation by a large number of boards being prepared to take over with a competent staff. Therefore, this position was taken up by my predecessor in office, before I took over charge. The matter has been referred to the various Commissioners for opinion, as to how far and under what conditions these works of public utility which are being executed by the Public Works Department could be entrusted to the local boards. The taking over by Government of the works from the Ahmednagar district local board is not to be construed as a final act of policy. It is only an intermediate policy, until a definite policy has been arrived at.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : May I know the results of similar experiments in other districts ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : There have been two districts in the Presidency, Ahmednagar and Poona, where this experiment has been tried. In Ahmednagar, the district local board has an engineer by name Mr. Mule, and as long as he continues the work may be on a proper level; but there is no guarantee that it would be so. The level has in some cases not been maintained; but that is not the ground on which Government have considered the question. Government want to see if there are more local boards to undertake such work, and for that purpose the necessary preliminary condition is that there ought to be a cadre of competent engineers, from which the district local boards might engage their men; it would then be possible for Government to entrust the district local boards with these works, and in that case they may engage one inspector in order to control and supervise the work of various districts. That is not possible at present, and therefore the Ahmednagar district local board is being relieved of the work which was entrusted to it. These are the two points I wanted to traverse.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE : The Honourable Minister is wrong in one respect. He has misstated one fact, and has made a wrong statement.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I cannot allow the honourable member to make another speech.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Sir, with reference to the budget I have to submit that it does not contain any message of hope. The needs of the people in the countryside are many, and they are not heeded in the budget. Their first need is primary education. In that respect, there is a full stoppage. So, we, the rural members, have nothing in this budget to carry to our constituencies.

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Now, with reference to the review of the work done in the transferred departments, the less said the better. As the time is limited, it is not possible to examine the success alleged to have been achieved in the various departments. I will therefore confine myself to the working of one department only, and pass my remarks thereon. It is admitted by the Honourable the Finance Member in his written speech that forests play an important part in the well-being of the agricultural community of this great presidency. They are not however, in my opinion, worked to promote its well-being. As a revenue-earning department also, I submit, it has totally failed. On the other hand, it has severely told on the welfare of the agriculturists. I will show how. The average revenue from the Forests from the year 1921-22 to 1928-29 is Rs. 73,50,000 and the average expenditure for the same period is Rs. 43,25,000. The average net revenue during that period is Rs. 30,25,000. Government are spending Rs. 43,25,000 for an income of Rs. 30,25,000.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : How much has been spent on roads ?

Mr. M. D. KARKI : I will come to that later on in this session. In no other department there is such an expenditure. The department is over-staffed and overmanned. Even this income of Rs. 30,25,000 does not represent the actual income from the Forests in its true sense. If it had been so, we would have been very glad, i.e., if this income has been derived from exploitation of forests. This amount is mostly made up by exploiting the local agriculturists who are made to pay more for the various forest products which they need for their cattle and agricultural operations. The forest revenue as compared with the area covered by forests is ridiculous. The forest area covers 15,000 square miles and the average income according to my calculation comes to 5 annas per acre. To earn a profit of 5 annas Government are spending 7 annas. Even to earn that amount they squeeze the agriculturists. So, the working of the department is not satisfactory. The Chief Conservator's post was proposed to be abolished by the Retrenchment Committee appointed during the life-time of the first Council. That has not been done. I sent resolutions to the effect that the present forest divisions in Kanara should be abolished. There are five divisions and I proposed that it should be reduced into two divisions, so that there may be a saving in that direction. That has not been done. If the forest area is given to private enterprise after assessing its property, Government will get an income of over one crore of rupees annually. As regards the grievances of the forests, Government, while you, Sir, were in charge of the portfolio, appointed a committee to bring to the notice of the Government the grievances of the ryots. It clearly pointed out so many grievances but only a negligible portion of them was favourably considered by Government. The most important portions of the recommendations of the committee was that the grazing fees and other charges on forest produce such as grass, anjan leaves, thorns, fuel, stones, etc., which were revised in recent years should be reduced to their original level at least, if not lower still. The Government stated that they regretted their inability to reduce fees on

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those forest products. Again the conferment of malki rights of Bettas in Kanara was a settled fact. The official members too agreed that the malki rights should be conferred on the ryots. At the Forest Conference held at Yellapur consisting of the Collector and the forest officers it was decided that the malki rights over 'Bettas' should be handed over to ryots. That has not been done as yet. Forest panchayats spoken of by the Honourable the Finance Member were restricted only to Kanara. Only there were very few panchayats started in some of the talukas of Kanara. The rules of the Panchayat were so framed as to discourage the formation of such panchayats. To one of my questions last year which appears on page 125 of Part I of Volume XXIII, you will find, Sir, that there is an answer that the panchayats are not working properly and they are not successful. The forest committee pointed out that the rules were not properly framed and that the panchayats should be encouraged by a revision of the rules. That has not been done at all. The Honourable the Finance Member in his speech has stated that forest committees are being formed in the forest districts. But the personnel of the committee is being much objected to by the people. These have not come into existence to begin work. These are the successes achieved by the Forest Department.

As my time is short I now come to the question of district administration in Kanara. It is far from being satisfactory. The independence of the magistracy is at stake. One magistrate was brought into hot waters last year at this time, because he did not approve of the doings of the police. The District Magistrate sided with the police and the magistrate was brought into trouble. The High Court, however, upheld him but the unfortunate man has since been dismissed. So, there is a likelihood of other magistrates being afraid of their independence and shirking their responsibility in police matters. So, the independence of the magistracy is not safe.

Again, measures have been taken to raise new water rates in the Ankola taluka. The ryots headed by the M.L.C. of the district waited on the Collector in a deputation. In the interview given by the Collector, he stated *inter alia* that he was not there to look to the interests of the ryots but he was there in the interest of the Government and that he was only an agent of Government to collect revenue. This unhappy disclosure has caused a stir throughout the breadth and length of the district. The Collector has however given a different version.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: I must interrupt the honourable member and say that we have received from the Collector an entirely different account of the incident he refers to and that we do not accept his version of it.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: As a representative of the district in this Council I myself headed the deputation and the Collector made the above statement to me in the presence of the English knowing ryots. As the result of the revision settlement made by Mr. Collins new proposals for increasing the assessment have been published in Kanara. The khatedars complained that, as the whole report was not published

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in Kanarese and as the time to put in 'takras' fell in the agricultural season, there should be a new publication and extension of time. This mild request by the khatedars was not respected by the Collector but wholly refused. The time when it was published was harvest season. It was the duty of the Collector to look to the convenience of the ryots to enable them to put their objections and to give them sufficient time for it. Attempts are now being made to divide the ryots in their avowed unity to contest the proposals to increase assessment. The khatedars have formed associations for that purpose; and are working constitutionally. The attempt to divide the people is mean and will result in untoward incidents. No attempt is being made to solve the Betta problem: the revision of bettas is left to the Collector and no action is being taken by him in the matter. The betta problem must be solved to ameliorate the conditions of the gardeners. There is thus general discontent throughout the district. The district needs a Tupper, a Swift and a Maxwell as head of the administration at this critical time. I leave Government to see their own way to help the ryots. With these words, I resume my seat.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities): Sir, I congratulate the Honourable the Finance Member on having presented the budget in an honest and straightforward manner and on saying that there will be no new taxation this year except two bills to put the Stamp Act and the Court-fees Act permanently on the statute book.

Sir, if one examines the financial position as it appears in the budget, one sees that it has a dismal and depressed appearance. Bombay has been plunged into heavy debts for the Back Bay bungle of the Lord Lloyd Government and the heavy commitments regarding the Sukkur Barrage. This presidency has now to pay interest to the extent of 2,48 lakhs of rupees annually. When you examine the budget as a whole you see that bankruptcy stares Bombay in its face.

I want now to make a few remarks regarding the Sukkur Barrage. I was one of those who advocated the cause of the Sukkur Barrage when it came for the vote of this honourable House in 1923. Cultivation in Sind is nothing but a gamble in rains, and it was due to that that 18 crores were sanctioned for the Sukkur Barrage. I was one of those who visited the Barrage to see how it was progressing, but I confess that we could make out nothing, neither the head nor the tail; we saw huge walls, huge railway, huge sluices and valves, huge dredging machines, huge number of labour employed and huge bungalows and quarters for the officers and the staff. In fact everything appeared to be huge. We also learned on enquiry from the Engineer in charge, Mr. Harrison, that the two dredging machines which were estimated to cost 6 lakhs had cost 30 lakhs. According to the report outside we learn that they have cost 52 lakhs. So, we do not know where this presidency is going to end with regard to the commitments of the Sukkur Barrage. With all this feeling, I am not going to oppose the progress of the Sukkur Barrage;

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I wish it becomes a perfect success. But what I want to point out is that we are taking the words of Mustos and Harrisons, who are experts, without discount. Sir, I find that we are going to spend 20 crores of rupees for the benefit of the 24 lakhs of people living in Upper Sind. But what will be the condition of the people living in Lower Sind? From personal enquiries made in Hyderabad I learnt that people in Fuleli Canal, Hyderabad and Karachi will be greatly affected. That means that the interest of 8 lakhs of people living in this area is at stake. So, I request the Honourable the General Member not as a Moslem but as an Indian to get the front benches to look to the interests of lower Sind, especially of the constituency from which he hails and owing to whose confidence he has been fortunate enough to rise to such an eminent position and I wish him one day to be in the Government of India in charge of some responsible portfolio.

Now, I come to education. The Honourable the Finance Member gave us facts and figures to show the increase in the number of schools and in the number of pupils? What is the increase? During the period of nine years, the increase in the number of primary schools has been only 1,639 and the increase in the number of secondary schools only 30. Now I ask the House to look to the number of boys and girls of school-going age who ought to be at school and denied their birth-right of primary education and say whether it is not a slur on the good name of the British Government.

I wish now to point out the various difficulties under which the education of Mussalmans is suffering. It is suffering both at the hands of the department and at the hands of the Minister in charge, because he does not secure sufficient funds for the purpose. I would like to point out that in the district local board schools Muslim teachers are not given the same justice as is given to non-Muslim teachers. As regards transfers, you will find that Muslim teachers are transferred every 3 or 6 months, whereas non-Muslim teachers are allowed to be at one place for more than 12 years and that too in their native places. Whereas non-Muslim teachers whose pay is only Rs. 50 are posted in such places and posts where "Hajree", postal and other allowances amount to Rs. 40 besides their pay. Muslim teachers are so posted that they do not get them to the same extent. Now, I will give you another example where we are not meted out justice. A Muslim who has had no education in Urdu is posted to an Urdu school where he is ultimately of no good; thus a square man is put in a round hole. Government have given us as a favour an Urdu Deputy Educational Inspector for the Northern Division. But what are his powers? He tours a good deal and draws travelling allowances and enjoys the accommodation provided in public buildings. He inspects schools and reports what he thinks should be done. But no effect is given to his recommendations or simple suggestions by the superior officers. What is the use of having such a post and unnecessarily incurring expenses on the public purse? What is the use of having him when no action is being taken on his recommendations?

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In the school at Mandal (near Viramgam), there are big pits in the flooring of the school for the last four years. The visitors and the Urdu Deputy Inspector in charge of the divisions have recommended that either it should be paved or that cow-dung should be used to fill those pits. What is the result? The Deputy Educational Inspector of the district says that there is no fund available. I ask in all earnestness whether the Deputy Educational Inspector cannot make available a grant of Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 for the cow-dung? A non-Muslim school which has 59 number of pupils on its roll has three teachers provided for it while a Muslim school has only two teachers allotted to its lot.

Then, Sir, there are a great many other difficulties as regards secondary schools and middle schools. In the Government secondary schools and middle schools at the most two Mahomedans are able to secure admission in a class of 30 boys. With a view to avoid this difficulty we have been trying to expand our Anglo-Urdu schools. We have an Anglo-Urdu high school under the name Anjuman-i-Islam; originally it had only 45 pupils.....

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: "We"—who?

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI: We, Mussalmans.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Where?

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI: At Ahmedabad. To-day we are proud to have 450 students through the exertions of the present headmaster Mr. Hakim who is a young energetic and sympathetic gentleman. At present we are teaching them upto the 5th standard, but we want to extend it up to the 6th and 7th standards. We want a building grant—not more than Rs. 25,000. I hope the Honourable Minister will give it. In some of the mofussil places there are no Urdu schools. I do not advocate communal schools everywhere; I am not an advocate of communal schools; though I am vice-president of the Anjuman-i-Islam I and my friends have been sending our boys to Government schools, because we are not in a position to employ highly paid teachers, more efficient and well qualified such as are employed in Government schools. But, Sir, at the same time we want our children to have their education side by side with their Hindu brethren.

I also want to urge that where there are 15 Muslim boys or ten girls in a vernacular school one Urdu teacher should be appointed.

Before I resume my seat I would like to congratulate the Honourable the Minister of Education on the blessings he has earned from the students of the Gujarat College. When he came to Ahmedabad it was never expected that he would uphold the just cause of the students. After all, common sense and prudence have prevailed, and I compliment him on the action he has taken once again.

(After recess.)

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Mr. President, you, Sir, will bear me out when I say that the position of Ministers is

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not a bed of roses. But I am thankful to say, Sir, that in this debate the speeches that have been made, specially with reference to the departments that are under my charge, are most encouraging and I am thankful for them, because each and every member that has taken part in this debate has really supported me and helped me in my endeavours to get more money for the departments that are under my charge. All the heavy artillery of the opposition has been reserved for the reserved departments, and some occasional shafts from an antiquated quiver have been directed towards me. Sir, the criticisms, if I may be allowed to say so, are old ones and there is nothing particularly striking except the last Bolshevik speech of my honourable friend, Dr. Gilder from Bombay. There are two or three points which I would like to answer. My honourable friend from Ahmedabad (Mr. Sheth) said that though this presidency is most advanced in education, in culture, in civilization and in every thing, still in point of expenditure for primary education it was at the bottom of all the provinces. I take this liberty of contradicting him, and I am glad to say, Sir, that we stand the first in point of expenditure for education also. And if the honourable member from Ahmedabad and the honourable member from Hyderabad, Mr. Jairamdas,—I do not see him in his seat,—had only taken the trouble to study annual reports of the Director of Public Instruction, they would have found the information that they required. I will quote, from the last Quinquennial report a statement giving comparative figures of the total expenditure in the several provinces in India for 1925-26 :—

	Rs.
Bombay	1,92 lakhs
Madras	1,87 lakhs
Bengal	1,43 lakhs
United Provinces	1,78 lakhs and
Punjab	1,78 lakhs.

From this it is quite clear that we, Sir, are easily the first, and, therefore, the charges that are made against us are entirely baseless. This was the most important criticism that was made against the Educational Department.

Now, there is another point which has been made by my honourable friend from Hyderabad, Mr. Noor Mahomed. The honourable member singled me out as a Mahomedan Minister and said that it was singular that during my time the expenditure for Mulla schools in Sind had fallen from Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 2 lakhs—a difference of 3 lakhs. I was rather surprised and almost startled and I asked him for his authority and he referred me to a figure on page 173 of the White Book which reads as follows “C—Primary—Direct Grants to Non-Government Primary Schools—1929-30—Rs. 2,72,000 as against Rs. 5,81,000 for 1928-29.” There is no mention whatever about Mulla schools in this and as a matter of fact, this does not refer to Mulla Schools at all. Yet he drew upon his imagination and said that it was meant for Mulla schools. If my honourable friend had taken the trouble of reading the Blue Book, he

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would have found it explained in that book, page 83. There, under the paragraph 150, Primary (b), it is stated :—

“The function of making grants to aided primary schools having now been transferred to local authorities under the Bombay Primary Education Act in the case of the majority of the local authorities concerned, a sum of 3·09 from the current year's allotment of 5·78 for recurring grants and a sum of 4·5 out of the allotment of 7 for non-recurring grants for apparatus, books and furniture have been transferred to the head ‘grants to local authorities for primary education’.”

As a matter of fact, it is only a transfer and I was startled because I never for a moment found that 3 lakhs could have been possibly deducted from 5 lakhs in the case of Mulla schools. It is most dangerous to make a statement in this Council without studying one's books. If the honourable member had said that he did not know and wanted information, that would have been a different thing, but instead of doing that, he came forward and boldly asserted that during my time these 3 lakhs had been reduced in the case of Mulla schools. This practice, I hope, the honourable member would abandon in the future.

With regard to primary education, my honourable friend from Nasik, Mr. R. G. Pradhan, said that Ministers ought to develop courage and place facts before the Council with regard to the working of the Act. I do not think that I am lacking in courage and I therefore take this opportunity of informing the House that a very serious situation has arisen. The Primary Education Act is unworkable, it requires serious amendment, either mending or ending. This is the opinion of all those that have anything to do whatever with the working of that Act. My honourable friends Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram and Dr. Ambedkar have been repeatedly asking for amendments in the Act. When the Primary Education Bill was first introduced and passed into law, Dr. Paranjpye or rather the Committee that investigated these matters, had failed to take into consideration the financial difficulties that would arise in the working of this Act. Let me for a moment draw attention to the Committee's report in which they have recommended sources of income for the Act :

1. Death duties and succession duties.
2. Increase in registration fees, and entertainment tax (which only brings 8 lakhs of rupees).
3. Tax on Inamdars and Jahagirdars.
4. Devasthanas,
5. Tax on stock exchange transactions,
6. Tax on trades and industries to be used for the education of factory children,
7. Such Surcharge on the income and super tax that may be feasible.

I ask the House seriously whether any of these sources have been tapped and can be tapped.

The other day a question was put to me by the honourable member from Hyderabad as to what would be the estimated expense of carrying fully into effect the Primary Education Act in Sind. My reply was “nearly a crore of rupees.” There are four other divisions and therefore nearly 5 crores of rupees are necessary to carry fully into effect this Act. It is no use merely depending upon doles. Taxation for this purpose is absolutely necessary. It is my duty to place this before the Council. Merely thousands would not do, even lakhs are insufficient. A few crores,

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of rupees are necessary, now either by loan or taxation in order to carry out this Act. How long are we to go without money and prolong this agony? The position is intolerable. My honourable friend from Surat (Rao Bahadur, Naik) said that not a single school was opened in Gujerat. May I respectfully ask him, whose fault was it? The four local boards in Gujerat non-cooperated with the Act and did not accept control of schools. Under the Act we are entitled to receive $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of the total expenses from the boards. Owing to their non-cooperation we received no help, and Government is paying all the expense. Whatever grievances there may be, the honourable member will himself admit that this position is intolerable. Whether there are grievances or not, this Act should be amended before any expansion takes place in the rural areas. I am most seriously thinking of asking a small committee to meet and discuss this question.....

Mr. A. D. SHETH : Do it rather than think about it.

* Rao Bahadur B. R. NAIK : It is the business of the Minister to amend the Act.

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : I tell you beforehand that these difficulties have arisen and the way in which we want to do it. I shall have a little committee to consider how to do it. This would be a preliminary step. Again take the question of the pay of primary teachers. It is a very serious problem for which I think the boards of Gujerat are no little responsible. I know that my honourable friend the member for the University of Bombay and other members are engaged in committees upon cognate subjects, but this is a subject which requires a committee by itself.

With regard to the Medical Department, I have listened to the criticism offered by my honourable friend from Surat, Dr. Dixit, and my honourable friend from Bombay, Dr. Gilder. Both say that Government should engage honorary physicians as professors and make them superintendents of hospitals. Their remarks were particularly directed against the Dental Hospital and the Dental College which are soon to be established in Bombay.

When the time comes, I think there will be another occasion for discussing this question. But here I may shortly say that, in the beginning, when an institution is started, it is not always possible to work it by mere honorary workers and professors. The Grant Medical College and the J. J. Hospital took a very long time indeed before the honorary system was introduced in them. The proposed institutions are quite new and they would require whole time professors. Later on, when they are fully developed it would be possible to hand them over to honorary workers. The argument with regard to honorary workers should not be carried too far. There are honorary magistrates in Bombay, but that does not mean that the stipendiary magistrates should be abolished. There is place for the stipendiary magistrates, and there is a place for honorary magistrates also. Again in Bombay we have advocates of the first rank who might offer to be honorary Judges of the High Court,

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but could it be argued that the salaried Judges of the High Court should be done away with ? That would be an impossible situation. The real debate upon this question will take place when the demand for that head is placed before the House, and a cut is moved. But I thought it right to make a few observations in answer to the remarks made by my honourable friend Dr. Gilder.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA (Bombay City) : Sir, I rise to offer my sincere congratulations to the Honourable the Finance Member for the lucid and comprehensive speech with which he introduced the budget. For the last few years we have been bewailing about the Meston Settlement and the financial stringency of this presidency, but I would like to know from the Honourable the Finance Member how, under the Meston Settlement, this presidency has suffered. I would like him to quote figures showing to what extent this presidency has suffered in revenue by the Meston Settlement, and what would have been the position if the pre-Reform basis had continued. Sir, while protesting against the Meston Settlement it has often been said and specially by Government benches that it is more favourable to entirely agricultural provinces, but entirely unfavourable to industrial provinces and that Bombay being an industrial province, has suffered much from it. I would like to know from Government, taking the wording of the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member, as to what they have done or are doing for the trade and the industrial prosperity of this presidency, whether they have taken any measures for the advancement and for the safeguarding of the interests of the industries of this province. Sir, there is one principal industry in the province, and that is the cotton industry. The Government of India, by their exchange policy, have given a great setback to this industry. Again, Sir, the Government of India, by not giving full effect to the meagre recommendations of the Tariff Board, have given another setback to the mill industry ; and the Government of Bombay by their recent policy have done nothing for safeguarding the interests of the industry of the province. Sir, the last mill strike continued for over six months, but the Government of Bombay practically did nothing. The prosperity of the province and of the city of Bombay depends mainly on the industry, and what have the Government of Bombay done ? Nothing. If the Government of Bombay are really keen on the advancement of the city and on the advancement of the province, they must look to the advancement of the industry.

Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member has taken a review of the various departments of Government in his speech, and he has given greater attention to the transferred departments. But, Sir, from the figures it appears that in the transferred departments there has been practically no improvement. For the year 1921-22, a sum of Rs. 6.16 lakhs was allotted for the transferred departments ; for next year the sum allotted is Rs. 5.67 lakhs. That means that from the first year of the Reforms, during the succeeding 7 or 8 years, lesser sums have been provided for the transferred departments. I see that the Honourable

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the Finance Member is shaking his head, but that is the figure in the budget. I have taken the figures from the budget of the year 1921-22 and the budget for the year 1929-30. This they have done in spite of the fact that this Government has not now to make any provincial contribution, which was to the extent of Rs. 56 lakhs, and they have not to pay anything to the Famine Relief Fund the contribution to which was to the extent of Rs. 63,60,000, which makes a total sum of Rs. 1,19,60,000. Besides, since the inauguration of the Reforms, this Council has granted to Government new taxation to the tune of about Rs. 80 lakhs, which brings the total to Rs. 1,99,60,000 or roughly Rs. 2 crores.

The Honourable the Finance Member in his speech (page 23), referring to the Public Works Department, has bewailed the fact that, for want of funds, the full allotment for the demands could not be made. May I draw his attention and the attention of the Honourable Minister for the Public Works Department to the way in which they spend money? I have come across one or two works carried out by the Government, in one of which the sanctioned estimates were Rs. 12,35,000. Tenders were invited. Though there were very respectable firms which sent in tenders, the tenders were rejected. Subsequently, the man who was ninth on the list was given the contract. It was for a sum little less than the lowest tender. The total amount of the contract was Rs. 9,34,000, resulting in a saving of Rs. 3,01,000 over the sanctioned estimates. How was this saving of Rs. 3,01,000 utilised? Was this sum utilised for any other work? No. What did Government do? They made improvements in the scheme, and carried the expenditure from Rs. 9 lakhs to Rs. 15,24,000. That means that about Rs. 6 lakhs were utilised in making improvements to the buildings concerned. I am referring to the Poona Court Buildings. In this way, if savings are to be utilised in making improvements and improving appearances of buildings, how can more works be carried out?

The Honourable the Finance Member referred to the debt position of the Government and mentioned that the total debt of the Government is about Rs. 43 crores. I have not been able to find out whether this Rs. 43 crores includes the amounts lent to the three public bodies of the City of Bombay.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : No.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA : Then, Sir, the debt charges of the Government of Bombay come to Rs. 107 lakhs. That is not a very heavy amount. Considering the fact that the Bombay City Municipality, with an income of Rs. 3 crores, pays Rs. 130 lakhs for debt charges, if the Bombay Government having a revenue of Rs. 15 crores pays only Rs. 107 lakhs as debt charges, it is not a hopeless or bad position. The Honourable the Finance Member in his speech pointed out that the number of students in primary schools has increased from 7,60,122 in 1920 to 10,21,078 in 1928. Taking the population of the Province at 2 crores, it means that only 5 per cent. of the population of Bombay

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are receiving primary education. That is not a very happy thing to be proud of. The figures show an increase of students of only 36 per cent. in 8 years. In the city of Bombay during the same period the number of students receiving primary education has increased from 28,000 to 50,000, which means an increase of about 80 per cent. This shows that much remains to be done by the Government of Bombay in regard to education. Referring to the remarks of the Honourable Minister for Education comparing the amount spent in Bombay Presidency on education with that spent in the different provinces of India I would like him to show whether the population in Bombay is more literate than in other provinces to justify this expenditure. That is the proper test. It is no good to say that you are spending larger sums without the results being obtained.

Last year Government proposed to increase the fees for higher education. A protest was made by the Council. I am sorry to find that the Honourable Minister again this year proposes to increase the fees. I must tell him that this is not the time looking to the condition of the people to increase the fees for higher education.

Coming to Excise, the Honourable the Finance Member referred to the competition of foreign liquor with country liquor and the measures taken by Government to curtail the sale of foreign liquor. It will not be possible completely to curtail the consumption of foreign liquor by means of raising the licensing fees only. The effective way in which it can be stopped is by getting the co-operation of the Government of India in prohibiting the entry of foreign liquor into India.

Coming to the forests on page 9 the Honourable the Finance Member shows that the revenue from forests has increased from Rs. 51,27,057 to Rs. 74,61,557, whereas the expenditure for the same period has increased from Rs. 27,70,205 to Rs. 42,55,923. The surplus for the same period has risen from Rs. 23,56,852 to Rs. 26,13,116. While the expenditure has increased by about 2½ lakhs, the surplus has increased by about only 9 lakhs.

Then, I would like to refer to the institution of provident fund for the staff of Government instead of pensions. The system of provident fund for the staff has been instituted by all the public bodies in Bombay. It encourages people to save and will be a great help to them. I hope Government will see that this system is introduced for their staff also.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN (Bombay City, South) : Sir, when I heard several honourable members congratulating the Finance Member for this budget-making, and several others severely chastising him for the same, I wondered what the exact definition of a budget was. These terms—surplus, balancing the budget and deficit—are very plastic terms. In short, Sir, budget-making is an art of estimating according to the exigency of the hour. I should almost say that budget-making is an occult science, which defies all the science of mathematics and all the canons of inductive and deductive logic. Take for instance the first Indian Finance Member : he showed us a surplus budget of 36 lakhs when it was really a deficit budget of 22 lakhs. The present Finance Member goes one better. He

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shows a budget of 119 lakhs deficit as a surplus budget of one lakh ! If he claims to have any credit for it, I sincerely congratulate him for that performance. My honourable friend Dr. Gilder told us that the statistics were a dangerous thing. I think he quoted the honourable member the Finance Secretary. I say that statistics are inexplicable and undefinable things. Really I do not understand whether this House has got to thank the Finance Member for what is shown in the Blue Book, (which is a Chinese puzzle to me at least) or the House has got to reprimand the Finance Member for telling us that our things are going from bad to worse. All this is due to three white elephants which have been shoved on the shoulders of the Bombay presidency. The first is the Development bungle ; the second is the Sukkur Barrage ; and the third is—it will not be palatable to many honourable members—the illogical and absurd fad of prohibition policy. (Interruption.) Sir, to the absurd and impractical policy of prohibition, I will come by and by.

Coming back to the Development affair, as the honourable member Mr. Winterbotham correctly said, the future generations will profit by what we are paying through our nose in this generation. We have now gone too far either to recede or to make a halt. I leave it to the House to say whether it is just that for the benefit of the future generations we should be penalised so heavily—penalised to this extent. But, Sir, something can be done still, and that is to keep a more vigilant control over the expenses of these two gigantic projects. For instance, for the Development plots, if I am not misinformed, very fancy prices are asked. I know of one or two instances where for development plots fancy prices were asked. I do not know why. Perhaps Government think that better prices will be forthcoming.

Then, Sir, I come to the South Salsette Railway scheme costing 85 lakhs of rupees. I had an occasion once to see that toy tram and toy steam-engine, and I thought that Government were patrons of the nicest and quietest set of Bombay residents, I mean the *Jaripuranawalas* !

I find, Sir, that in the budget a provision of about 5 lakhs more has been made for the Police. I for one wish that at least a provision of 12 lakhs was made for the increase of the police force in Bombay City. We shall have to say a number of things when the adjournment motion of my honourable friend Mr. Munshi comes up on Tuesday. As an honorary magistrate I had to work with the police 12 hours during the day and 12 hours during the night, and I say that the Police in Bombay have done marvellous work, and the City of Bombay is absolutely proud of what they have done. As an honorary magistrate it is frequently my sad duty to go against the police in cases that are brought under section 112, but now I turn round and say that the Bombay Police has done something wonderfully nice. When I say that I am not exaggerating—(Interruption.)—I hope I would not be interrupted. I only hope that the Honourable the Home Member will utilise this extra 5 lakhs for the City of Bombay, considering what has happened during the last five weeks.

One point about secondary and higher education. In that direction Government seem to have adopted the prohibition policy. Higher and

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secondary education has been starved to the utmost limit and Government now are coolly proposing to raise the fees in the colleges and high schools! That is a proposal which I do entirely trust this House will indignantly reject. Sir, secondary and higher education for the middle classes have now become absolutely prohibitive, and to put any extra burden over the students would be nothing short of a calamity.

Now, I come to my honourable friend Dr. Gilder. Sir, his eloquent and impassioned plea for prohibition reminded me of the physicians and surgeons who in season and out of season urge the necessity of injecting vaccine into a constitution, when they perfectly know that that vaccine will do the patient no good, and go on injecting it till the patient dies. I do not suggest that Dr. Gilder does that in the medical field, (laughter) but he has figuratively done that in the matter of prohibition. Now, Sir, if the present policy of Government induce temperance and sobriety in the City of Bombay and in the Presidency, I would be the last man to oppose it. My belief is that the methods adopted do not conduce to the results which you anticipate, and you are throwing away a revenue of 58 lakhs for nothing. What I say is that those honourable members of this House who think that they are going to make Bombay dry even within 20 years are living in a fool's paradise. I will read this cutting from the *Times of India*. It is headed "Prohibition in Ceylon." He says that the Commissioner has found that out of 14 countries.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. Nothing is allowed to be quoted from newspapers.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN: I shall not then quote, but I myself say that out of 14 countries in the world that have tried prohibition, 12 have dropped it and only two have retained it, and those two are America and Finland. Now, Sir, does the present policy of prohibition stop drinking? If it does, only a man out of the lunatic asylum would oppose it. My contention is that drink is still there. Surrounded as we are by nearly 380 Indian States, surrounded as we are by these foreign liquor shops.....surrounded as we are, Sir, by these foreign liquor shops all round the city and the presidency, do we succeed in introducing prohibition, and do we ever hope to succeed? I do not mean to say that nothing should be done in the matter, but I am opposed to the policy of making big outward fortifications against the enemy when the enemy enters your door through the underground. If you really mean prohibition, by all means stop foreign liquor also and have an honest, straight policy of having complete prohibition. Then I would certainly support it. But at present, when the Government of India would not hear of stopping of foreign liquor, what is the use of knocking our head against a dead wall? That is what I say. Sir, the present policy only leads to what? It leads to the increased consumption of foreign liquor, increase of illicit distillation; it leads to increase in crimes under excise; increase in hardships to labour (though my friends of the labour will say no a thousand times). I say, that millhands as a class after ten or twelve hours' toil, cannot do without liquor.....

Mr. S. K. BOLE: That is not a fact, Sir.

Honourable MEMBERS : Question, question.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN : But I say it is a fact, Sir. They do not want prohibition.

An Honourable MEMBER : Question.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member's time is up.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN : I will then, Sir, cut it short and say that for prohibition policy we should adopt a more practicable policy and a practicable method. That is all I urge for and at the time of excise demand I shall speak more on this point.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable the Finance Member informs me that he would need about forty-five minutes to reply. Now he has just forty-five minutes. But I will take ten minutes out of his speech and give one member a chance, a member who has stood up and I have caught his eye. I hope he will finish his speech exactly in ten minutes. I mean the honourable member from Hyderabad.

SYED MIRAN MUHAMMAD SHAH (Hyderabad District) : Mr. President, I must thank you very much for having given me these ten minutes, though they will not be sufficient for me to express my opinion on this huge labyrinth of statistics that is placed before us. But in my first attempt on this huge affair, I would like to address myself at least to that part of the budget which vitally affects me and with which I am closely connected and to which very few members have referred and very few members have understood it. It is lying in a corner at the foot of this Blue Book. I would say that it is trampled down under the huge weight of this Blue Book. But as it is going to affect the people, at least 2,05,000 souls, and being the representative of these people, I feel it my fundamental duty to place before this honourable House the utility of that money that the Honourable the General Member has asked this honourable House to sanction. Sir, that demand has been made on page 294 of the Blue Book and it has been styled as a productive work. Certainly any money of the Government that is being spent is spent either on productive or preventive protective works. This work is styled as productive, but I respectfully submit that it is not so. Even from the point of view of protection, I say it is not protective but it is destructive. That is what I would style it. I will convince this honourable House why I call it so. In spite of the fact that a lump sum of Rs. 50 lakhs is going to be spent on the amelioration of my people, still I am so foolish as to deny it and throw it off. Unless this House is pleased to suspect me of lunacy or idiocy.....

An Honourable MEMBER : No, no ; we do not suspect you of that.

SYED MIRAN MUHAMMAD SHAH : Then, I would respectfully submit why this is not a blessing. What is a blessing ? A blessing is that which is conducive to the pleasure and to the comfort of the people. But I say I would not buy a golden chain for lakhs of rupees only to shackle me down. What of it if it is Rs. 50 lakhs worth, but if it is

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going to chain me down and going to ruin my prospects? Fortunately, Sir, I belong to the tract which the Honourable the General Member is very anxious to provide for in case when the Sukkur Barrage is completed and for the exigencies of time he wants to construct certain regulators across that canal which is called Fuleli. He has divided that canal into three sections,—the higher, the middle and the lower one,—and he has given figures also of the intensity of cultivation, and from the figures this honourable House will be pleased to see that the intensity in the upper reaches is lower than that of the lower portion, because from all the figures on pages 295 and 294 I can say that the intensity in the upper reaches is 26 on one canal, namely, Gajawah, to which I belong, and in the case of Pandhiwah it is 42, leaving aside the middle one which is considered to be the most fortunate, being near the regulator—I am referring you to the lower portion, for which the Honourable the General Member is very anxious. He has been times without number impressing upon the House that it is for the protection of the people at the tail that he wants to spend a lump sum of money. But I want to convince the House that on the very figures which the Honourable the General Member has supplied in this Blue Book, that the intensity of cultivation in the lower portion is higher than in the upper portion to which I belong. Though he wants to provide for my protection in that higher portion, in spite of that, I am going to deny myself that blessing. He puts a pertinent question, the General Member having been returned from this constituency, why he is against that? Why should he ask for the lump sum being wasted? I have got reasons for that. The honourable member Mr. Noor Mahomed has given certain reasons, and I am going to give another reason for that. The reason for that is—though Government may deny—that they have made solemn pledges, still on page 295 you will find it stated

“To fulfil Government’s pledges to safeguard the interests of the Fuleli tract as a whole, the following works are necessary.”

This shows, this connotes, without any explanation that Government have given solemn pledges, and we have got books and letters of the Government whereby we can prove that Government had given solemn promises that they would compensate us for any losses that may happen to us owing to the construction of the Sukkur Barrage.....

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: Will the honourable member quote them?

SYED MIRAN MUHAMMAD SHAH: I can and I shall, but we have not received all those papers yet, we shall be getting them to-morrow and we shall place those papers before the Honourable the General Member. And, Sir, Government knows how hard it is to get money from the people in the presidency who are already frightened with the Sukkur Barrage. They would not allow Barrage land to be given to people of Fuleli for their losses—a man like my honourable friend Mr. Ginwalla, for instance, would cry out when it is suggested that 3 lakhs of acres of land are going to be restored to the people on concessionary rate of 15 rupees an acre.

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Therefore Government is going to be troubled, if they have not got any land to be returned to those people who may suffer by the effects of the Sukkur Barrage. On account of that, they want to pin us down; they want us to subsist on a cake which is not sufficient for our maintenance. They wish us to divide that half-cake among ourselves. We say "we cannot live on that cake; you must give us such cake that we can live upon it." And what is the right remedy? The right remedy is to construct another small barrage at Jherruck in order to raise the level of the river. The Honourable the General Member says that is impossible; Government has already spent so much money on the Sukkur Barrage. I say, will it be doing justice to us? Because a few people of Lar side (not organised) are not vocal and do not bring to your notice all the disadvantages and hardships, are you going to crush them down? Are you going to crush a hundred smaller people to give advantage to a thousand people? No; as the representatives of the people, you are in duty bound to protect the smaller people as well as the bigger people. If we are not vocal, you should not take advantage of the position; it does not matter if we are only three persons here in this House representing the people affected who are not vocal. It is not a question of Fuleli only but of the whole of Southern Sind; it is a question of the Karachi district as well. The Honourable the General Member has asked for only Rs. 50 lakhs now, but he will ask for Rs. 1 crore more when the Karachi district question comes. The present is not the only question; but the question of the Karachi district is also coming up. Then, what will he do? Will he go on spending money on such schemes right up to the sea? He will ask for one crore more. Why not spend all the money in his contemplation on another barrage at Jherruck to compensate people in lower Sind? The honourable House should clearly understand me, that we do not want a barrage of such a construction as is going to be constructed at Sukkur. Even if you make it like a small wier or something even like the Bund at Poona, it will go a great way.

Now, the Honourable the General Member has said that he has given us a greater volume of water by giving us 1,500 cusecs more. I say, quite right. But what about your rotation? You are going to give me a rotation of five weeks. It may be that a man at the tail will get a turn after five weeks. No other crop can be grown in that tract but rice cultivation. He may want us to grow Egyptian cotton or American wheat. But we cannot do it. The condition of the soil is such that we cannot grow any other crop but rice. If any other crop could be grown, why should we not grow it? But the soil is saltish. It is called "Lar", which means low-lying or saltish land. Anybody who has got a knowledge of agriculture will agree with me that nothing but rice can be grown on a saltish land. And I cannot help it, because I cannot grow any other crop. Therefore, you cannot pin me down to grow jowari or bajri which will give the cultivator only such an outturn as to pay the Government Revenue only. It is the bounden duty of Government to look to the amelioration of the people. Where is the source of money coming to Government? They ought to look to the welfare of the

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people,—the agriculturists,—from whom they derive the greatest portion of their money and on which they run their show.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Mr. President, throughout the budget discussion that has been going on for the last three days several honourable members seem to have assumed that the review which I had taken about the working of the different departments of Government is intended as a sort of boast or a challenge. That was not the intention in my mind. On the contrary, I undertook the review in order to give an opportunity to the different members of this House to point out our mistakes and suggest ways and means to remedy them, and I expressly so stated in paragraph 5 of my speech. The object of a general budget discussion, as I understand it, is to give an opportunity to the non-official members of this honourable House to criticise the policy of Government in all the departments generally, and it is but right that they should have some idea about the working of those departments before they start on the task of detailed discussion. It is in these discussions that they are expected to make constructive suggestions for the guidance of the official benches. That was one object. The second object in making the review was that as the Statutory Commission is sitting it is but right that we should take stock of what the transferred departments have been able to achieve under the Indian Ministers. I expressly stated in my speech that adequate funds could not be provided for the expansion of the nation-building departments owing to the financial stringency, and in spite of that the people of this Presidency, when they are entrusted with the management of their own affairs, are capable of showing some tangible results in provincial matters, and so the Presidency is fit for Provincial Autonomy which is so dear to the heart of every Indian member sitting here. I am glad that some earliest constructive criticisms have been offered for future guidance and they will be seriously taken into consideration.

The second complaint which I heard was that the budget books were not received by members in good time. I can assure this honourable House that the Finance Department is working at considerable pressure during all these days, and figures have to be collected from the Accountant General and other heads of Departments, and the very earliest opportunity is taken to prepare these books and put them in the hands of the honourable members.

My honourable friend from Kaira, Rao Saheb Dadubhai Desai, suggested that I should begin by curtailing the establishment of the Finance Department itself. I can tell him that not only is the staff not superfluous but it is not even adequate. The staff have all to sit for very late hours, and also to take work home particularly during the last four or five months, and the Secretaries and the Superintendents are more hard worked than the clerical staff. I am as anxious as any other honourable member of this House to apply the pruning knife wherever it is possible to do so, and as one honourable member Mr. Ginwalla admitted retrenchment to the tune of Rs. 53 lakhs has already been made. The process cannot be pursued indefinitely.

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There is a suggestion thrown out that all officers drawing more than Rs. 200, who are not appointed by the Secretary of State, should have their salaries cut down by 5 per cent. because the cost of living has gone down. If this honourable House adopts a resolution to that effect, it can be taken into consideration, but I may assure this honourable House that the scales of salaries of the new provincial services have been settled on a more modest basis than are the present imperial services and all the new recruits will come under those rules. Some of the suggestions made by Mr. Shillidy, the Retrenchment Officer, have been already carried out and some are still under the consideration of Government.

As regards reducing the lower staff, the suggestions which are made are sometimes inconsistent. Some members seem to think that there should be no curtailment in that direction and that the curtailment which is already effected is rather too harsh. I think both honourable members, Messrs. Jog and Deshpande, were of this opinion and said so in their speeches. Government have to be guided by the advice of the officers on the spot and wherever possible strictest economy is being practised. In the transferred departments recruitment to the All-India services has been stopped and services are being provincialised.....

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE: Since when?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Since the Reforms came into existence and for the last three or four years there is no recruit taken and all the services are being provincialised.

My honourable friend Rao Bahadur Kale wanted a list of posts which have been given to provincial service men out of the All-India cadre. If he will have a look at the Civil List and compare it with the Civil List of older years, he will find that many posts in the transferred departments which were originally held by All-India men have now been occupied by provincial men.

The Honourable member from Bombay, Mr. B. T. Desai, urged that no more money should be given for increasing the police force. Many of the members of this House do not share that view. On the contrary, as I have stated, there is always a cry for more police not only in the town and island of Bombay but in the mofussil.

Honourable members criticising the agricultural improvements tried to point out that the condition of the agriculturists is not improved with all these improvements and that they are not better off. If the general output of the agricultural produce is better, that ought to contribute to the improvement of their material wealth; and to remove their indebtedness, I have already stated that the experiment of Land Mortgage Banks is being made for solving the difficulty of long term loans. I believe that the co-operative movement ought to contribute materially to remove many of the middlemen who are at present absorbing the profits which ought really to go into the pockets of the growers.

It is also urged that the improvements should be carried to the doors of the cultivators. So far as I know at several places experiments are made on the cultivator's own lands in order to show them the superiority of improved cultivation and improved seed.....

Mr. D. A. JANVEKAR : Question.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : I have seen such fields myself personally and the honourable member who says " Question " may rest assured that I have myself seen such fields.

The representative of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and the representative of the European Chamber of Commerce suggested that many of the properties of the Development Department which are causing great loss to this presidency should be sold, and my honourable friend Mr. Hooseinbhoj Lalljee also wanted to wind up the water supply and the electric schemes at Ambernath.....

Mr. G. L. WINTERBOTHAM (Bombay Chamber of Commerce) : I am being misquoted, I never made any suggestion to that effect, Sir.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : The honourable member said yesterday " at whose cost are you going to keep those properties ? "

Mr. G. L. WINTERBOTHAM : I was only alluding to the point made by the honourable member the Finance Secretary.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : The honourable member put the question I referred to above and said, in effect, that we were going to keep those properties at the cost of the taxpayers.

As regards the Housing scheme, I have already suggested that in order to bring down rents in the town and island of Bombay, if any individuals or large employers of labour are prepared to take these properties on rent, they will be given to them at concession rates and attempt will also be made to induce the Tramway Company to extend their lines to such places. But there could be no purchasers of such vast properties nor can they be sold at rock-bottom prices almost for nothing. Every effort is being made to see that the chawls are tenanted. The calculations which are based upon the establishment charges and repairs with the present rent realised are misleading because many of these vast properties are at present unoccupied but all the same, they cannot be allowed to go to ruin. Ordinary repairs will have to be effected.

For reducing the overhead charges for the Water supply and electric schemes at Ambernath and inducing prospective buyers to purchase plots for industrial undertakings, negotiations are going on. If they fructify, these losses will be considerably minimised.

As each scheme becomes complete, it has to be brought under an account head and provision has to be made for the amortization of the losses. That, I understand, should be the only sound way of wiping out these losses.

The contract with the G. I. P. Railway will terminate in January next. That will give us an idea as to what should be done with the Central Salsette Railway. But there could be no purchaser for such an undertaking and we have got to face the loss and try to meet it.

It is well said that the penalties of extravagance extend far beyond the prodigal's own sufferings. But whatever that may be, interest and the sinking fund charges have to be met, and I already stated that these heavy charges are considerably handicapping Government in their other activities.

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Some honourable members wanted to know what has become of the amounts which we used to contribute to the Famine Fund and for provincial contribution and how it was that in former years there could be surpluses in spite of these contributions while at present we are living from hand to mouth even with the reduction or remission of these contributions. My honourable friend Mr. Marzban has again fallen into the same error and he said that here is a deficit budget and not only there is no surplus of one lakh but there is a deficit of 119 lakhs. I am coming to this point presently. In the first place, if the honourable members will please look at page 2 of the Blue Book, Head XXXIX-A, Miscellaneous Adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments, they will find that in the first five years by these adjustments this Government got something like Rs. 81,99,000. That source is now dried up. It is not correct to say that we have been contributing Rs. 56 lakhs right up to last year. I have given the figures about our contribution under the Meston Settlement at the end of paragraph 4 at page 4 of my speech. Since 1927-28 we have not been contributing anything and for the previous two years we did not contribute the full quota. Similarly, we did not contribute the full quota of famine assignment in 1927-28 and in the current year we did not contribute anything.

When I found that these charges were being made, I got a statement* prepared,—and any honourable member is welcome to have a look at it,—as regards revenue and expenditure, beginning from 1924-25 (because that is the last year when we paid the full provincial contribution) up to the year 1929-30. I will read the summary about the revenue and the expenditure as regards important items.

Mr. K. M. MUNSHI : Will this be printed and circulated ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : I have not the slightest objection, for its being printed and circulated. As regards the revenue heads, I may compare the figures of 1924-25 with the figures of 1929-30. They are as follows :—

Land Revenue	— 5 lakhs
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Excise	—53 „
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Stamps	— 1 „
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Scheduled Taxes	+12 „
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Irrigation	+17 „
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Interest : may be omitted because that includes the figure of the interest paid by the other bodies.

Administration of Justice	+2 lakhs
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Jails and Convict Settlements	+1 „
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Police	+6 „
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Education	+2 „
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Civil Works	+24 „
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Etc., etc.

The total excess for 1929-30 as compared with the figure of 1924-25 is Rs. 86 lakhs. Now, the grievance of my honourable friends is that, if

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there is any excess of revenue, if there is any excess of saving, that is all absorbed by the reserved side, and nothing is given to the transferred side. I have got figures of expenditure for the different departments, from which it can be seen how the expenditure has gone up. They are;—

Education—(Transferred)	+25 lakhs
Medical	+10 „
Public Health	+12 „
Agriculture	+4 „
Industries	+1 „
Civil Works	+39 „
Land Revenue	+4 „
Stamps	+2 „
General Administration	+5 „
Administration of Justice	+1 „
Jails	—1 „
Police	+6 „

Now, from these figures, taken for the last five years, this House can judge from what sources the excess revenue has come, how the excess expenditure is incurred, and on what departments.

Rao Sahab D. P. DESAI : The figures are as compared with 1924-25 ; is it not ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : I have already informed this House that I took the year 1924-25, because that is the last year in which the provincial contribution was made. Honourable members were at a loss to understand the position, right from the honourable member Mr. Shivdasani to the honourable member Mr. Marzban who spoke last. They thought that there was a great relief to the provincial revenues, because there is no provincial contribution and because there is no contribution to the Famine Fund. Let us take these two figures. Rs. 63 lakhs was the contribution to the Famine Fund and Rs. 56 lakhs was the contribution to the Imperial revenues, making a total of Rs. 119 lakhs. As against that, let us take these figures : Education, Rs. 25 lakhs, Medical and Public Health, Rs. 22 lakhs, Civil Works Rs. 39 lakhs and Back Bay losses Rs. 41 lakhs. We are in all paying nearly Rs. 58 lakhs, but I am giving the figure of Rs. 41 lakhs, because I have not taken into consideration the cotton cess which also goes to wipe out part of the losses. If you take the total of all these figures, it comes to Rs. 1,27,00,000. I hope I have satisfied honourable members as to where this sum of Rs. 119 lakhs has gone. Part of it has gone for the increased expenditure on the transferred department, part of it has gone to pay off the losses.

According to the original arrangement under which the Sukkur Barrage scheme was sanctioned, as it is partly a protective work, Rs. 10 lakhs were to be allotted from the Famine Fund annually for meeting interest charges. My honourable friend Mr. Shivdasani could not understand why we were so generous as to give Rs. 10 lakhs from the Famine Fund to the Sukkur Barrage. But that is the condition of the scheme.

Mr. A. D. SHETH: Why that condition?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: That is because it is partly a protective work. The Famine Fund contributes towards protective works also. The Sukkur Barrage is a productive as well as a protective work, and to the extent it is a protective work, it gets a contribution from the Famine Fund.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Are there famines in Sind?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Oh, yes. There are.

Mr. A. D. SHETH: For a part of the presidency and not for the whole of the presidency.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: As provision for famine assignment is now reduced to only Rs. 12 lakhs, this sum is now being met from ordinary revenues. To that extent the contribution still continues. For the first two years no contribution was made and so this year Rs. 11.79 lakhs are being paid to make up the arrears. The honourable member the Finance Secretary (Mr. Wiles) has already told the House that we are contributing nearly Rs. 58 lakhs annually towards the Development debt.

There is a great fall in Excise revenue; similarly under Stamps and Court-fees. All these different factors have wiped out the sums which are considered as a sort of saving by the honourable members.

The honourable member from Ahmedabad, Mr. Swaminarayan, thought that we are giving Rs. 19 lakhs for capital expenditure out of our revenues. That is not so. The amount is being utilised only for one day. Then he also took exception to our lending Rs. 1.23 lakhs to the Sukkur Barrage. That is a sum which gives us about Rs. 6 lakhs by way of interest. All that which is spent for the Barrage out of the provincial revenues, barring the contribution from the Famine Fund, carries interest which goes to increase our ordinary revenues.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: When will it be returned to the general revenues?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: We can get it to-morrow. We have merely to borrow and take that borrowed amount in repayment of the amount which we advanced. I admit that no Government will be justified in building up large balances at the risk of starving important departments in their ordinary expenditure. If this surplus which is at present bringing interest is utilised for any expenditure, it can only be utilised for a non-recurring expenditure. At the same time, it must be remembered that if it is so utilised revenues will be *minus* by Rs. 6 lakhs annually.

Exception was also taken to the money taken from the Famine Relief Fund. Honourable members are aware that while the Famine Relief Fund is intended only for expenditure on famine, the excess in the Fund can be used also for protective works in precarious tracts. So whatever is taken out of the Famine Fund and added to the ordinary revenue is strictly utilised according to the rules for those purposes only, and that is a legitimate expenditure.

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The honourable member Mr. Sheth pointed out yesterday that the saving in expenditure was mainly due to the Educational and Medical Departments. I may point out to this House that it is not the fault of the Finance Department that the allotted money has not been spent by any Member or Minister. Saving is not due to any restriction imposed by the Finance Department. Some of the schemes for primary education probably were not ready and so the allotment which is given to the Educational Department could not be spent. The Finance Department merely acts as a watch dog. It is only an advisory body. No blame can therefore be attached to that department if the sums allotted are not spent for purposes for which they were allotted.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : The Education Minister is to blame then ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : I may point out to the honourable member Mr. Sheth that out of the savings, Rs. 1,50,000 are allotted by way of re-appropriation this year for grants to school buildings over and above the amount already put down as a building grant. When there were savings, an appeal was made to the Department that a reappropriation should be allowed, and Rs. 1,50,000 out of the savings were allotted to the building of schools.

I found that the honourable member from Satara, Mr. Deshpande, and the honourable member from Poona, Mr. Gunjal, put forward two inconsistent propositions. One wanted retrenchment in the establishment of the Special Engineer and the other wanted more money to be spent on minor irrigation works. The Special Engineer and the staff are not merely doing the duties of carrying out works for which amounts are sanctioned but are also examining different schemes for minor irrigation works and that is one of the most important duties which that department is expected to carry out. They have examined hundreds of schemes as I have already stated in my speech. Some of the schemes they have to reject and some of the schemes they have to submit. The establishment is there not only for carrying out the works. Do not be guided by the sums put in here. That engineer is expected to submit schemes to Government. If the schemes are approved by Government, then sums are allotted for these schemes.

Some honourable members suggested that forests should be made to yield more money. As I already pointed out the vast wealth which we have got in our forests can only be exploited by incurring capital expenditure on roads and feeder railways. But no impediment will be offered by the Finance Department to any remunerative schemes which the Minister for Forests may be able to put up in due course.

My honourable friend Mr. Jairamdas, from Sind, quoted some figures and showed that the money allotted to the transferred departments in other provinces was higher than the money allotted in this province and he also referred to the Devolution Rules Nos. 31 and 32 which he thought the Ministers ought to enforce. I may tell this honourable House that there is no occasion for the allocation of separate revenues for the two halves of Government because there is hardly ever any cause for disagreement. The reserved side is always prepared to meet the wishes of the

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Honourable Ministers in their demands. Mr. Jairamdas also wanted to know how the rationing takes place. The ordinary system is that each department puts forward its own demand including the new items. The total of that is taken. Then the money which is available is calculated. The cuts are decided by a mathematical rule. All the new items are divided into three classes, *viz.*, (a) indispensable, (b) may be undertaken if funds permit and (c) may be omitted. These items are then discussed in the Cabinet and those which are found to be absolutely necessary are sanctioned by the Joint Board. Sometimes the average expenditure of each department is calculated. By average expenditure I mean that special items of expenditure which are not recurring are deducted and calculations are made and the requirements of each department settled. In the Joint Board each Member and Minister puts forward his items which are indispensable and every attempt is made to meet his wishes as far as possible out of the current revenues, if not from the balances. But for recurring expenditure more strictness has got to be observed.

Mr. Jairamdas also gave some figures as regards expenditure in the Industries Department in the other provinces like Madras and Bengal. But I may tell this House that the comparison he makes is not good. In both the provinces other items of expenditure are shown under "Industries." In Madras for example about Rs. 7.42 lakhs are spent on Fisheries and some other items like District Engineering and School of Arts are also included. In Bengal a sum of Rs. 3.93 lakhs on account of chincona plantations is included under "Industries."

My honourable friend Dr. Dixit when he took the total of the figures of 1921-22 and 1928-29 included the figure of Civil Works. But he did not take into account that in the first year of the Reforms period many of the urgent works which were held up, owing to the war stringency were undertaken and the honourable member will find at page IV, Statement 1 of the Blue Book that the expenditure in that year far exceeded the revenue. There is always a complaint that the transferred departments are starved at the expense of the reserved departments. Many of the reserved departments are equally important, if not more for nation-building. Take for instance Irrigation. It must be considered as one of the most important nation-building departments but it is reserved. Many of the irrigation schemes which are under construction cannot show results by way of revenue until they are complete, and honourable members have to remember that they serve a double purpose of not only giving water for cultivation in precarious tracts but also by way of preventing famines. I have already pointed out in paragraph 13 of my speech how the benefits of irrigation have to be measured. The honourable member, Mr. Gunjal, proposes that irrigation cess should be reduced to half. Even at present the irrigation in the Deccan is not a paying proposition with the present rates. It should be remembered that the lands near the canals have gone up in value and there is no betterment tax levied up to now.

Many members when discussing the budget objected to the passing of the two bills, the Stamp and Court-fees. At the same time the tendency

Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

The general discussion has shown that more money is wanted for several nation-building departments. It is difficult to understand how more money can be paid with diminished revenues.

I omitted to refer to the increased expenditure on Excise alluded to by the honourable member, Mr. Swaminarayan, in his speech. Part of the increased expenditure is due to the price of opium which is shown both on the revenue and expenditure sides according to the new rules. Part of the expenditure is also due to the increased compensations which we have got to pay to the Native States whose abkari rights we have taken on lease.

It is a mistake to think that the criticisms of the honourable member are a cry in the wilderness. Every constructive criticism that they offer is given the best consideration and every attempt is being made to meet the wishes of the representatives of the people. (Applause.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. That finishes one stage of the business. As for to-morrow the Honourable the Leader of the House will make a statement as regards the order of business.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: To-morrow, as usual, Government will proceed with the two finance bills on the agenda, and taking the Stamp Act Amendment Bill first.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The House is adjourned to 1 o'clock to-morrow, Friday, the 22nd February 1929.

Friday, the 22nd February 1929

The Council reassembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, on Friday, the 22nd February 1929, at 1 a.m., the Honourable the President, Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI, Bar-at-Law, presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Khan Saheb
 ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
 AHMAD, the Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 ALLAHBAKSH, Khan Saheb
 AMBEDKAR, Dr. B. R.
 AMIN, Mr. H. J.
 ASAVALE, Mr. R. S.
 BALAK RAM, Mr.
 BHOSLE, Mr. M. G.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 BRANDER, Mr. J. P.
 BROWNE, Mr. D. R. H.
 CHANDRACHUD, Mr. N. B.
 DABHOLKAR, Sir VASANTRAO
 DAWOODKHAN SHALEBHOY, Mr.
 DESAI, Mr. B. T.
 DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
 DESAI, the Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D.
 DESAI, Mr. J. B.
 DESHPANDE, Mr. L. M.
 DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
 DOW, Mr. H.
 FREEKE, Mr. C. G.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HAJDAR SHAH, Mr.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Sir
 GILDER, Dr. M. D.
 GINWALLA, Mr. F. J.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH, Mr.
 HOTSON, the Honourable Mr. J. E. B.
 ISKAN, Khar Saheb GHULAM MUHAMMAD ABDULLAH KHAN
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM, Mr.
 JAN MAHOMED KHAN, Khan Bahadur
 JANVEKAR, Mr. D. A.
 JITHKAR, Mr. HAJI ISRAHIM HAJI MAHOMED
 JOG, Mr. V. N.
 JONES, Major W. Ellis

JOSHI, Mr. S. C.
 KALE, Rao Bahadur R. R.
 KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KHUERO, Mr. M. S.
 KNIGHT, Mr. H. F.
 LAGHARI, Khan Saheb RAIS FAZAL MUHAMMAD
 LAIRD-MACGREGOR, Mr. E. G.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY ABDULLABHOY
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LIGADE, Mr. S. P.
 MACKIE, Mr. A. W. W.
 MACLACHLAN, Mr. D.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MARTIN, Mr. J. R.
 MARZBAN, Mr. P. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUNSHI, Mr. K. M.
 NAIK, Rao Bahadur B. R.
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OLIVEIRA, Mr. F.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. J. R.
 PATIL, Rao Saheb D. R.
 PETCH, Mr. F. W.
 PRADHAN, the Honourable Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M
 RAJMAL LAKHICHAND, Mr.
 RIEU, the Honourable Mr. J. L.
 SAKARLAL BALABHAI, Mr.
 SHAIKH ABDUL AZIZ ABDUL LATIF, Mr.
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHEETH, Mr. A. D.
 SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
 SHEROFF, Mr. CHEOTALAL R.
 SMART, Mr. W. W.
 SMYTH, Mr. J. W.
 SOLANKI, Dr. PURUSHOTTAMRAI G.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 SYED MIRAN MUHAMMAD SHAH
 SYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
 SYED MUNAWAR, Mr.
 THORAT, Sardar S. B.

THORNER, Mr. J. P.
TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
VANDEKAR, Rao Saheb R. V.
WASIF, Mr. G. A. D.
WILES, Mr. G.
WINTERBOTHAM, Mr. G. L.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Swearing in of a new member.

Mr. C. G. FREKE then made the prescribed oath of allegiance to His Majesty the King-Emperor and took his seat in the Council.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Questions.

ELECTRIC TRAINS : B. B. AND C. I. RAILWAY : THIRD
CLASS CARRIAGES.

Dr. P. G. SOLANKI on behalf of Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the hardship caused to the local passengers of the B.B. and C.I. Railway particularly to women and children, by the present method of attaching the Third class compartments of electric trains sometimes in the rear and sometimes in the front ;

(b) whether complaints were made to the Railway authorities by the passengers regarding this arrangement ;

(c) what action, if any, Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) The electric trains of the B.B. and C.I. Railway Company are formed of two units so that during slack periods of the day a single unit (half a full train) can be run. During the busy periods of the day it is essential that the upper class accommodation should be in one place, namely the centre of the train. Consequently, when the double train is divided, the upper class accommodation is sometimes at the North end of the single unit and sometimes at the South. This results in the third class accommodation being sometimes in rear and sometimes in front. This is likely to cause some inconvenience to passengers who are not aware of the arrangement.

(b) Yes. When the electric train service first started to run, the public for a few days had some difficulty in understanding where to entrain when single units were run and complaints to this effect were received.

(c) Notices showing where the third class accommodation is to be found are hung up at all stations when single unit trains run and have been painted in two colours for the purpose of indicating the information to illiterate travellers. The railway staff have also been instructed to inform travellers where to wait and at Churchgate station experiments are being tried with an electric indicator. In a few days after the electric service had started the public learnt where to wait and no inconvenience is caused at the present time. Government do not therefore consider that any further action is called for.

MOTOR VEHICLES : COMPULSORY INSURANCE.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Superintendent of Police, Satara, has issued orders for the compulsory insurance of public motor vehicles running in the district against passenger and third party risks ;

(b) the total number of motor vehicles insured as per orders of the District Superintendent of Police ;

(c) the total amount paid to the insurance companies by the owners of the motor vehicles during the year ending 31st March 1928 ;

(d) the total number of accidents of motor vehicles in the Satara District during the same period ;

(e) the total number of deaths due to motor accidents in the year in the district ;

(f) the amount of compensation paid by the insurance companies to the injured persons or their relatives ;

(g) the names of other districts in the Presidency where such compulsory insurance is in force ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) Yes, from 1st April 1928.

(b) 459.

(c) Not known.

(d) 64.

(e) 14.

(f) Not known.

(g) Broach, Surat, Thana, Bombay Suburban District, Nasik, East Khandesh, West Khandesh, Bijapur, Kanara, Ratnagiri and Kolaba.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : As regards (c) have Government made enquiries of the total amount paid by the insurance companies to owners of vehicles ?

Mr. H. F. KNIGHT : That is a matter for the owners and the insurance companies.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : Government could have answered all parts of the question in the same way. If they do not make enquiries what is the use of a question ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The question is why were no enquiries made ?

Mr. H. F. KNIGHT : Because we are not entitled to enquire about the private affairs of private persons.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : Were not the motor companies compelled to insure their cars ?

Mr. H. F. KNIGHT : Yes.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : If that is so, why have not Government enquired whether compensation was paid ? There were 14 deaths due to these accidents. Will Government now enquire whether compensation was at all paid to the deceased's relatives ?

Mr. H. F. KNIGHT : I do not think Government can interfere between owners of motor vehicles and private persons. It appears to me that that is a question for the civil courts.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : Then, why were the motor owners compelled to insure ? You withdraw the order for compulsory insurance, and then the party will go to the civil court.

Mr. H. F. KNIGHT : I have not gathered the question. It is merely as a protection for the public.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : Where is the protection for the public ?

Mr. H. F. KNIGHT : Any person who is injured in an accident can sue an owner of the car with some prospect of getting some compensation. I might explain, the normal trouble is.....

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : I rise to a point of order. Is Mr. Knight a member of Government ?

*The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Yes.

* Mr. H. F. KNIGHT : I was trying to explain the difficulty. The owners of public service motor vehicles are often persons without any property except the motor vehicles themselves. When they are sued by the relatives of persons injured, the civil courts make a decree, but it is found that there is no property against which the decree may be enforced. If owners of public service motor vehicles are compelled to insure, then there is a prospect of the injured parties getting some compensation : if the owner has no property there is an amount due to him from the insurance company.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : Will Government now give us the figures asked for in parts (c) and (f) ?

Mr. H. F. KNIGHT : The answer is in the negative.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI : Will Government see that the poor persons who are entitled to receive compensation are assisted ? Government have taken the precaution of getting the lives of persons insured compulsorily : I want Government also to see that the persons injured do get the compensation.

Mr. H. F. KNIGHT : The lives of people injured ?

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI : Yes : the insurance is against passenger and third party risks. The insurance companies receive the premium and do not pay compensation.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I do not follow the question.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI : As Government have, in order to safeguard the interests of passengers, issued orders to get the taxi owners to insure against third party risks, will Government go further and assist the persons who are injured to receive compensation from the insurance companies ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : So far as I understand, that is a matter between the person injured and the owner of the vehicle.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI : If through ignorance the poor passengers do not know their rights, will Government take the trouble to make the taxi owners and insurance companies to give compensation ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I am afraid there is some sort of misunderstanding on either side. The Secretary has informed the honourable member that the object of compelling the insurance of vehicles was a step towards assisting the parties injured in getting the decrees of civil courts made in their favour executed against the amount insured for these cars. That is all the object aimed at. Supposing the owner has no property, the decree is only a paper decree ; therefore Government come forward and compel the owners to insure their cars so that the persons injured might get their compensation from the amount obtainable from insurance companies.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI : My point is, as the taxi owners pay the premium the passengers are entitled to get compensation ; through ignorance the passengers may not know their rights, and the insurance company will then escape paying compensation.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : According to the Secretary, they have got to go to the civil court.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I think some of our lawyer friends may put the point more correctly, but as I understand, the passengers themselves could have no remedy whatever against the insurance companies. Their only remedy is against the owner of the taxi or the bus, and the owner of the taxi or bus can recover it from the insurance company. Under the policy not only have the passengers no remedy against the insurance company, but it is not even permitted by custom that the fact that the car or bus has been insured should be mentioned in court when a claim for compensation is made against the company. I believe that is the correct position ; my lawyer friends may correct me if I am wrong. So, it would not be right to say that the passengers have any remedy against the insurance company ; and as for Government helping them, I think Government already do a good deal of paternal work ; but to interfere in the private affairs of any passenger that might happen to be injured would be a step far in advance of anything done at present, and I do not think Government could do that. I think it would be impossible for Government to take up any such duty nor do I think that the public generally would appreciate any such interference by Government.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : As regards (c), why should not enquiries be made and the information supplied ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : That, again, seems to me to be a purely private matter between the owners and the insurance companies ; Government have no interest whatever in the details of the policies. So long as the insurance is effected, that is all that Government can look into.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : How should we take this policy of getting insurance from the taxi owners ? whether it is in the interests of the taxi owners or in the interests of the passengers ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I think it is pretty clear. I have already said it is in the interests in the main of the passengers ; it is also in the interests of such taxi-owners as are too short-sighted to take the precaution of insuring on their own account without being forced to do so.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : So, would the Government be pleased to make a survey at the end of the year as to how much compensation has been paid to the passengers by the company and how much premium to the companies by the taxi-owners ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The reply has been given that Government do not see any reason why they should interfere in these matters.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : My point is that we would then be able to see whether it is really going to benefit the people as Government does not now know the figures to see whether the passengers have got any benefit from these insurance companies. If they know these figures, Government will understand whether passengers do benefit.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I am not at all sure, Sir, by what machinery could Government do that. They are not concerned in these personal affairs of the parties concerned. Many details would have to be ascertained and Government could not find out these facts.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : I have not been able to follow the answer, Sir. I could not hear him.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : In brief the reply is that if an enquiry like that is made at the end of the year, it would be interfering in private affairs, which would be resented according to the honourable member.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : Is it not a fact that the District Superintendent of Police gives the license only after the production of the insurance policy ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : Yes ; the applicant has to produce the policy.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : Is it not then the duty of the District Superintendent of Police to know what sum has been paid under the policy ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I do not think that there would be very much difficulty in doing that. But still I do not see why Government should interfere in private affairs between the owners and the insurance companies. I do not wish that this House should not have the information, but I do not see by what right Government could have collected it.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI : Is it not the duty of Government to ascertain the expenses to which the taxi-owners are put by their own orders ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : They will be able to recover their claims by the usual means ; I do not see that it follows at all that Government should make such enquiries.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : Have Government any objection to making enquiries ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I think, Sir, I have already explained the position.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : Is it not a fact that all accidents have to be reported to the police as soon as they occur, so that the police in each district have a register, as it were, of the accidents and persons injured ? So, is it not possible to gather from that record information about this amount of compensation for any injuries received ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I think I am correct in saying that the statistics of the number of accidents, the number of persons killed, etc., are not only collected but published. But I do not quite see how from these statistics we can find out the amount of compensation that has been paid.

ASSISTANCE SUITS, DUMALA VILLAGE HOLDERS, PATAN.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that assistance suits of holders of Dumala villages have been refused in Patan taluka of the Satara district on the ground that the villages are unsurveyed ;

(b) whether the Commissioner, Central Division, has issued any orders in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) Yes, in a few cases, through a misunderstanding. But all such cases have been readmitted.

(b) The Commissioner issued no fresh orders, but merely directed the attention of officers to the former orders and rules to prevent any harassment of tenants or occupants in such villages.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : In (b) it is stated that the Commissioner merely directed the attention of officers to the former orders. I want to know whether there were any former orders by the Commissioner to the effect that assistance to holders of unsurveyed Dumala villages should be refused ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : No ; no such orders.

JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER'S COURT, SIND.

Recommendations of the Civil Justice Committee.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind). Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Civil Justice Committee has very strongly criticised the arrangement as regards the management of

cause lists in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner of Sind and stated that it stood in need of far-reaching reform ;

(b) whether any of the recommendations of the Committee have been carried out ; if so, which of them have been carried out and which of them have not yet been put into force ;

(c) in the latter case the reasons for the recommendations not having been carried out ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) A separate Execution Branch has been established. There are now three cause lists instead of four as in 1925, owing to the reduction in the number of Judges. The question of reducing the three cause lists to one has been considered by the Judges, but it has been found to be impracticable at present.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : What is the difficulty exactly ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : As far as I remember, the Judges did not enter into much detail in giving their opinion. They tell us that they could not manage it.

CHHOR-AMARKOTE ROAD.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the road from Chhor station to Amarkote is a provincial road ;

(b) whether it is a fact that it is a mere earth road ;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is considerable traffic on it as it is the only road from the railway to the headquarters of the taluka and the principal highway to places beyond Amarkote ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the condition of the road, is so bad that motors plying for hire have to leave the road at some points and go along waste land ;

(e) whether Government propose to convert this road into a pacca road ;

(f) what percentage of the total length of roads in Sind is pacca ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a), (b) and (c) Yes.

(d) Yes. The condition of portions of the road is bad. Sometimes traffic has to use a side track.

(e) Government have recently sanctioned plans and estimate, the latter amounting to Rs. 1,07,270, for improving the road by providing brick paving with " Kalar " surfacing.

(f) The required information is given below for all roads—Provincial as well as Local Fund :—

—	Provincial		Local Fund		Total length	
	Mile	Feet	Mile	Feet	Mile	Feet
Surfaced ..	79	1,183	45	1,954	124	3,137
Unsurfaced ..	487	2,137	10,810	2,640	11,297	4,777
Total ..	566	3,320	10,855	4,594	11,422	2,634
Percentage of pucca roads to total length of roads in Sind	14			41		1.08

Note.—In working out percentages feet have been omitted.

MR. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM: With regard to part (e), it is stated that Government have recently sanctioned. "Recently" means approximately when?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI: September 1928.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OFFICERS: SUKKUR BARRAGE.

MR. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind): With reference to the replies to my question relating to the lien of Public Works Department Officers printed at page 413 of Volume XXIV of the Bombay Legislative Council Debates, will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of appointments sanctioned for the cadre of the Indian Service of Engineers in the Bombay Presidency before the Barrage and after its construction and the dates on which the post-Barrage appointments were sanctioned;

(b) the number of appointments sanctioned for the cadre of the Bombay Service of Engineers before the Barrage and after its construction and the dates on which the post-Barrage appointments were sanctioned;

(c) the number of Indian Service Engineers appointments and Bombay Service of Engineers appointments in the Barrage Divisions?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: (a) the number of appointments sanctioned for the cadre of the Indian Service of Engineers in the Bombay Presidency before the Barrage was 77 and that after the Barrage construction started is 100. The post-Barrage appointments were sanctioned in April 1923.

(b) The number of appointments sanctioned for the cadre of the Bombay Service of Engineers before the Barrage was 180. No additional appointments were sanctioned in this service on account of the Barrage Scheme.

(c) 24, Indian Service of Engineers appointments and 39, Bombay Service of Engineers appointments.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OFFICERS : BARRAGE AND RUNNING DIVISIONS.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : With reference to the reply to part (d) of my question relating to the lien of Public Works Department Officers printed at page 413 of Volume XXIV of the Bombay Legislative Council Debates, will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that officers of the Public Works Department transferred to the Barrage get a special Barrage allowance and free quarters ;

(b) whether it is a fact that officers of the Public Works Department working in the running divisions do not get any special allowance or free quarters ;

(c) whether it is a fact that it has been ordered that officers in the same cadre of Government service are not to be subject to different conditions of service ;

(d) the reasons for officers transferred to the Barrage and those working in the running divisions being held by Government not to be in the same cadre ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : (a) Yes.

(b) It is a fact that officers in the running Divisions do not get free quarters, but certain officers get special allowances in consideration of special circumstances.

(c) There are no orders under which special allowances cannot be given for work of a special nature.

(d) The permanent officers employed on the Barrage and those in the running Divisions are on one and the same cadre.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Is it a fact that permanent officers of Government employed on the barrage, though on the same cadre, get the special privilege of free quarters, which privilege is not given to any officers in the running divisions ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : Yes.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : Why is it so ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : Because of the special and difficult nature of the work to be performed in the construction of the barrage.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : What is the extra difficulty of the work of digging barrage canals beyond that of digging canals in running divisions.

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : Because there was special work to be done, the Council has been asking that we should have experts from the Punjab. If it was such an easy job, there would be no demand for experts from the Punjab.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : That was a suggestion made only in regard to advice to be given to those in charge and not in regard to every officer who is put in charge of excavation of canals.

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : That suggestion was made to the Council owing to the very difficulty of getting experienced engineers in the Presidency and on account of the special nature of the task.

FORFEITURE OF AGRICULTURAL LAND UNDER FALLOW RULES.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state the area of agricultural land forfeited under the fallow rules in each taluka in Sind between the years 1905-06 and 1924-25 out of the holdings of land-holders' holding under 25 acres, between 25 and 100 acres, between 100 and 500 acres and over 500 acres (separately) ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Government regret that they cannot undertake to supply the information since the time and labour involved in its compilation would not be commensurate with the public purpose that it is likely to serve.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : The sort of reply we have just listened to is coming to us every day twice or thrice and we do not know where we are. I would rather request the Chair to do something whereby we will get information from Government. When Government do not want to reply to any question, they give this almost stereotyped answer. I appeal to the Chair.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member, unfortunately for me, was not present on an occasion when the Chair did try to help honourable members of this House, in an indirect way. I personally have noticed it and drew attention in my own way of the Government benches to that fact. I think there are questions when a reply like that is justifiable, and there are questions in regard to which information might, with some trouble, be given. It is after all left to Government. They have the right even not to reply to a question and if they give this much reply, I suppose the House has to be thankful for it to them, but I do hope and trust—and join with the honourable members who resent a reply like that—and request that the Government benches should try their utmost to give full information wherever they can even if it be at some labour and cost. That is all that I can do.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : May I explain, Sir ? In this case the honourable member Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram has sent us certainly more than a dozen questions, all of them involving the collection of a large mass of detailed information extending, in most cases, over a very great number of years and covering the whole area of Sind in most cases. I admit that it might be possible to select one or two of these questions and reply to them, but there is no particular reason why any one question should be dealt with in preference to all the rest, and I feel that if I were to give a reply to one or possibly two questions, there would be a natural demand for similar replies to the others, and in the aggregate it would be simply impossible without entertaining a special staff at very great expense to collect all the information which the honourable member desires. All these questions relate more or less to the same subject, namely, the question of legislation for the restriction of the alienation of

agricultural land in Sind. These questions are in fact homogeneous and if I attempted to reply to one, I should certainly have to reply to the others and this would be perfectly impossible without, as I say, the entertainment of special staff. I can assure the honourable member that I have carefully examined every question myself. I am most desirous to give any information that can with reasonable facility be given to honourable members. It is not at all my desire to burke any question or any information which can, with reasonable facility, be given.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI : Is the huge number of forfeitures every year responsible for Government not giving replies to questions asked on this subject or is it because a register of landholders' holdings is not kept in the revenue offices ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : In the present case the number of forfeitures that take place every year is no doubt large. But it is not simply a question of collecting the number of forfeitures, adding them and arriving at the aggregate area forfeited, but each case of forfeiture will have to be separately examined to find out whether it belongs to a person holding only less than 25 acres or between 25 and 100 acres and so on, and this is a task which would be simply immense.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI : Is there no register kept of holdings of 5 acres, 20 acres or 25 acres and so on ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : No. This is purely an arbitrary classification which the honourable member has introduced into his question. We do not classify holdings on that basis.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM : In view of the long statement made by the Honourable the Revenue Member in which he said that if there was a reasonable question, then he would see that the information is made available, may I say a few words ? I have not put even one single question which is not necessary, and all these questions arise out of the recommendations of a Government officer who was appointed to go into this matter. The dates selected by me are his dates. With regard to holdings of various sizes, they are mostly his selections, and I believe that if Government only ask each tapedar in his own office to devote only a few hours, the information I have asked for will be forthcoming.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I am unable to accept that statement from the honourable member.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Has the report of Mr. Covernton, the special officer, on Sind Alienations Restrictions Bill, been received by Government ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : It has.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Has Government seen the four schedules that Mr. Covernton prepared and submitted with his report ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Yes.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Is Government aware that Mr. Covernton has actually laid down certain figures about these very items, but at the same time expressed that he has not been able to get accurate information ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : Mr. Covernton has not collected any information that would be sufficient for replies to these questions.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Is the Government aware that the collection of these figures is a most important matter which will assist the House either in accepting or rejecting the Sind Restrictions of Alienations Bill when it is brought before this Council.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I am not prepared to admit that at all. I cannot conceive of any special utility, for instance, in classifying forfeitures extending over 20 years according to this classification.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Is Government aware that other figures have been classified for 20 years by Mr. Covernton ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : I cannot say off-hand, but I am quite prepared to take that from the honourable member.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I think the point has been brought home to Government by this little discussion which I have allowed. I cannot lay down a ruling regarding this, but I may suggest, as a matter of principle, if it is acceptable to Government, that from the nature of a question it is easy for honourable members on the Government side to understand that the information asked for is of great public utility. If they find it so, they may take the trouble of supplying information in cases where they can easily understand that it will be necessary. If they were to accept that as a sort of a guiding principle, I think it would help the House very much, but as I have said, and I repeat it again that I do not lay it down as a ruling at all, but I throw it out as a suggestion which would be of immense service to this side of the House. Next question.

LAND GRANTS : MALKANO FOR EKSALI GRANTS.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that according to paragraph 13 of the Commissioner in Sind's special circular relating to land grants no malkano is to be charged for eksali grants of any kind ;

(b) whether it is a fact that until December 1927 the orders in force in Nagar Parkar taluka of Thar Parkar District relating to eksali grants were that no malkano was to be charged for such grants ;

(c) whether it is a fact that in his letter No. 1136 of 6th December 1927, the Collector of Thar Parkar ordered that from 1928-29 a sum of eight annas per acre should be charged every year on eksali grants in addition to the usual land revenue assessment ;

(d) under what provision of law this additional amount has been levied on eksali grants ;

(e) in which other talukas of Sind a similar additional amount is levied by Government ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) and (b) Yes.

(c) Yes : but the Collector cancelled his order before it came into force.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) None.

WELLS FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES IN SIND.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state the total number of wells used for agricultural purposes in the Thar Division of the Thar Parkar district and the area of land irrigated by them ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : The subjoined statement gives the information required by the Honourable Member :—

Taluka.		No. of wells used for agricultural purposes.	Area irriga- ted.	
			A.	g.
Diplo	..	13	24	16
Chachro	..	..	..	..
Nagar Parkar	..	20	47	16
Mithi	..	17	2	30

TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES OF DEPARTMENTAL OFFICIALS.

Mr. JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state the amount spent by Government on travelling allowances of the officials of each department during the year 1927-1928 or of any earlier year for which figures may be available ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : The Honourable Member is referred to the figures given under the respective Heads of Expenditure in the Civil and the Public Works Department Estimates.

GOVERNMENT SERVANTS : PAY OF GRADUATES.

Mr. S. C. JOSHI : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in Resolution No. 438 dated 25th June 1920, Government directed that graduates in the mofussil should be given by them a pay of not less than Rs. 70 and that in future Rs. 70 should be the starting pay of graduates recruited for service ;

(b) whether it is a fact that by Government Resolution, Finance Department, No. 1140 of 25th March 1925 Government directed that graduates in all departments in the City of Bombay, except those in the Lower Division in those offices in which the establishment is divided into Upper and Lower Divisions, should be given an initial salary of Rs. 90 ;

(c) whether in accordance with the resolution referred to in clause (b) above the graduates in all the Government offices in the City of Bombay have been given an initial salary of Rs. 90 ;

(d) if not, what are the offices in which graduates have been given an initial salary of less than Rs. 90 and what is the number of such graduates and the initial salary given to them ;

(e) whether it is a fact that in the offices under the Collector of Bombay there are at present some graduates who have not been given the benefit of the Government Resolution, Finance Department, No. 1140 of 25th March 1925 ;

(f) if so, what is the total number of graduates in the offices referred to in (e) above and what is the number of graduates who have not been given an initial salary of Rs. 90 ;

(g) the reasons why these graduates have not been given an initial salary of Rs. 90 ?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : (a) Yes.

(b) No. Under the orders referred to by the honourable member Government have authorised their Heads of Offices to start graduates except those in the Lower Division in those offices in which the establishment is divided into Upper and Lower Divisions, on an initial pay of Rs. 90 per mensem in the revised time-scale.

I may also add that the matter is still under the consideration of Government.

REVENUE MEMBER AND REVENUE SECRETARY : VISIT TO KANARA

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Honourable the Revenue Member and the Revenue Secretary or any of them visited Kanara in the year 1928 ;

(b) if so, whether the visit was official or private ;

(c) if the former, the specific purpose for which the visit was made ;

(d) the number of days of their or his stay in Kanara and the places visited there ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) Yes ; both of them.

(b) It was a private visit.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Since the visit was a private one, this question does not arise.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Was this visit for *shikar* purposes ?

(No reply).

DISTRICT COURTS OF AHMEDABAD AND SURAT : CLERKS.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of clerks serving at present in the offices of the Official Liquidator, Deputy Nazirs and the Nazirs in the District Courts of Ahmedabad and Surat ;

(b) the qualification of each of them ;

(c) the number of Hindus, Mahomedans, Parsis and Christians amongst them ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : A statement is placed on the Council Table.

STATEMENT.

Name of Office	District Court	No. of Clerks.	Qualifications	Hindus.	Muslims.	Parsis.	Christians.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Official Liquidator's Office.	Ahmedabad ..	15	1 B.A., LL.B. 1 B.A. 3 Under Graduates of Commerce. 5 Studied upto VII Standard (English). 2 Accountants. 2 Typists. 1 Vernacular clerk.	15	..	..	..
	Surat ..	3	2 Matriculates 1 Non-Matric.	3	..	..	..
Nazir's Office ..	Ahmedabad ..	6	1 Matriculate and School Final. 3 Non-Matric. 1 2nd Grade Public Service. 1 3rd Grade Vernacular.	6	..	..	..
	Surat ..	1	1 Matriculate	1	..	..	..
Deputy Nazir's Office.	*Ahmedabad ..	10	4 Studied upto VII Standard (English). 2 Studied upto V Standard (English). 1 Vernacular Final. 2 Vernacular 2nd Class. 1 Vernacular V.	10	..	..	..
	Surat ..	3	1 Vernacular Final 2 Gujarati-knowing.	3	..	..	..

*There are 2 Deputy Nazirs.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI : May I know from the Honourable the Home Member why columns 6, 7 and 8 are blank ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : Apparently they are blank.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI : Is it suggested that the orders of Government regarding the recruitment of Mahomedans in the public service are not carried out in respect of these offices ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : These persons are not Government servants. The Official Liquidators appoint their own clerks.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI : I am referring to the Nazir and the Deputy Nazir. They are Government servants.

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : The question does not refer to Nazirs or Deputy Nazirs ; it asks the number of clerks.

REVOLVER LICENSES.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN (Bombay City, South) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) How many applications were received from the public of Bombay during the years 1927 and 1928 for the grant of licenses for revolvers under the Indian Arms Act ?

- (b) How many of them were granted licenses ?
- (c) How many of them were refused licenses ?
- (d) The qualifications required of a person who applies for the above license to enable him to secure the license ?
- (e) Whether there are any written rules according to which applications for the same are disposed of ? If so, whether Government will be pleased to place a copy of the same on the Council table ?
- (f) Whether there are any specific instructions given to the Commissioner of Police in Bombay as to the method of disposing of these applications ?
- (g) Whether such applications are forwarded by the Commissioner of Police to his subordinate officers for inquiry ?
- (h) If so, how far the reports and recommendations of the Officers are accepted by the Commissioner ?
- (i) Under what circumstances he discards these reports and recommendations ?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that the certificates of Government title holders are of no consequence in the consideration of these applications ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a) 281 in 1927. 260 in 1928.

(b) 195 in 1927. 157 in 1928.

(c) 86 in 1927. 103 in 1928.

(d) In accordance with the announcement made in the Resolution of the Government of India in the Home Department, No. 2125-C, dated the 21st March 1919 (republished at pages 892-896 of the *Bombay Government Gazette*, Part I, dated the 17th April 1919), officers empowered to grant licenses have been instructed that licences for revolvers and pistols should be issued only to persons of approved character who have real necessity for the use of such weapons.

(e) and (f) No other specific rules or instructions for the disposal of applications for revolver licenses have been issued to the Commissioner of Police.

(g) Yes, as a rule.

(h) and (i) Every case is dealt with on its merits.

(j) Certificates from Government title holders or other persons may assist the Commissioner of Police in deciding whether the two conditions mentioned in (d) above are fulfilled or not. Unless they are, no certificate would influence him.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN : Are there any definite standards by which a person may be judged whether he is of an approved character or otherwise ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I am afraid there are no definite standards.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN : Is Government aware that an applicant certified to be a thoroughly respectable man fit to receive a revolver license by 4 or 5 Justices of the Peace, one member of the Legislative Assembly and one member of the Legislative Council was yet considered not fit to receive it ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : Government are not aware of that. It is quite possibly true, however.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN : Will Government kindly enquire into it ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : If the honourable member will give any names and definite details, I will enquire into it.

Mr. P. J. MARZBAN : Will the Honourable the Home Member tell this House whether the decision of the Commissioner of Police is absolutely final in this respect ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : The decision of the Commissioner of Police is final.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Are the members of the Legislative Council men of approved character ?

(No reply).

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Are Government aware that a certain gentleman applied for a revolver license because he apprehended some danger to his life and it was refused, and a few days afterwards he was killed in the streets of Bombay and the police were unable to protect his life ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I have no information to that effect. If the honourable member will give me details, I will make enquiries.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Are Government aware of the case of the weaving master who was murdered in the streets of Bombay ? Is it not a fact that he applied for a revolver license for his protection, because he had received certain information about danger to his life, and yet it was refused and the man was murdered and the police were unable to protect his life ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I would ask for notice of that question.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : Will the certificates of members of this honourable House suffice ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : I think the answer is sufficiently clear.

Mr. L. M. DESHPANDE : Are certificates from title-holders only considered ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : "Title-holders or other persons" are the words in the answer,

**BOMBAY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT : APPOINTMENT OF RAO SAHEB
KESMAL ADVANI AS ACTING EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the position of Rao Saheb Kesmal Advani, Acting Executive Engineer of Suburban Division, Bombay Development Department, in the list of Provincial Assistant Engineers;

(b) the salary of Rao Saheb Advani in that grade;

(c) the nature of his duties now;

(d) the nature of his duties and experience before he was transferred to the Bombay Development Department;

(e) the salary he is now drawing as an acting Executive Engineer;

(f) the names and the salaries drawn by his seniors in the list of the Assistant Engineers who are similarly acting in Public Works Department and Barrage;

(g) the special qualifications for which he has been selected for the post;

(h) whether it is a fact that this division was transferred to Public Works Department to avoid expenditure over the salaries of the temporary Executive Engineers;

(i) whether it is a fact that when Rao Saheb Kesmal was appointed as an Executive Engineer he was allowed only Rs. 470 by the Audit officers as his legitimate salary as acting Executive Engineer;

(j) the period of his service under Mr. Browne and Mr. R. T. Harrison, Chief Engineers and Secretaries to Government, Public Works Department, when they were in Sind?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: (a) Rao Saheb K. C. Advani is No. 40 on the Seniority List of the Bombay Service of Engineers as printed on pages 408-412-L of the Bombay Civil List corrected up to 1st January 1929.

(b) Rs. 530 per mensem.

(c) The duties of Rao Saheb K. C. Advani, Executive Engineer, Housing and Suburban Division, are similar to those of a Public Works Department Executive Engineer. The works in his charge are situated at Bombay and in the Thana and Bombay Suburban districts. The Housing and Suburban Division is an important and heavy charge, since it comprises all the Development works in Bombay and the Suburbs, excepting the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme and demands a special knowledge of these schemes which Rao Saheb Advani possesses.

(d) For many years before his services were transferred to the Bombay Development Department, Rao Saheb K. C. Advani was employed as a Sub-Divisional Officer on irrigation in Sind and was for some time Personal Assistant to the Executive Engineer, Karachi Buildings Division, where large project for buildings and roads were in hand. His record was consistently excellent and the title of Rao Saheb was conferred on him in recognition of exceptionally good work on the emergency loops and the Railway Diversion bund in the abkalani of 1909

in the Shikarpur Canals Division. He was responsible for the preparation of many important irrigation and bund projects and for the execution of new works on canals and bunds, besides the ordinary routine work of canal and bund maintenance and management, and he gained a wide and valuable experience in both Irrigation and Roads and Buildings.

(e) Rs. 1,200 per mensem.

(f) The Honourable Member's attention is invited to serial Nos. 6, 8, 12, 16, 21, 29, 30, 31 of the Seniority List of the Bombay Service of Engineers printed on pages 408-412-L of the Bombay Civil List corrected up to 1st January 1929.

(g) Rao Saheb Advani possesses particularly sound theoretical and practical knowledge of Engineering and is a very hard-working and conscientious officer, keen, thorough, tactful, reliable and zealous. His forethought, resourcefulness and excellent powers of organisation mark him out as being considerably above the average of men of his class and his special knowledge of all details of the Suburban and Town Planning schemes gained while serving in the Suburban Division of the Development Directorate made him the most suitable choice for the post.

(h) No.

(i) No; Rao Saheb Advani himself requested the Audit Officer, Bombay Development Scheme, to pay him at the rate of Rs. 470 per mensem pending the receipt of Government orders fixing his pay as acting Executive Engineer, Housing and Suburban Division of the Development Department.

(j) Three years and six months under Mr. D. R. H. Browne and one year and six months under Mr. R. T. Harrison.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH (In Urdu): When a subdivisional officer is made an acting Executive Engineer in the Public Works Department in Sind or on the Sukkur Barrage, what does he get? This man has been getting Rs. 1,200 per month for four years. What would he have got as an Acting Executive Engineer?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: I cannot give him the exact figure. He will get pay according to the fixed scale; there is a scale. I think he will get more than Rs. 600 or Rs. 700.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Is there any difference in the scale of salaries between Public Works Department officers and officers of the same grade in the Development Department?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: Yes, there is.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Why is there that difference? Are they not officers of the same grade and same qualifications, and are they not doing the same kind of work?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: Rao Saheb Advani is being paid this salary for the work that is being done by him. If the honourable member will read the reply to part (g) of the question, he will see I have stated as follows: "Rao Saheb Advani possesses particularly sound theoretical and practical knowledge of Engineering and is a very hard-working and conscientious officer, keen, thorough, tactful,

reliable and zealous. His forethought, resourcefulness and excellent powers of organisation mark him out as being considerably above the average of men of his class and his special knowledge of all details of the Suburban and Town Planning schemes gained while serving in the Suburban Division of the Development Directorate made him the most suitable choice for the post."

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Evidently, the Honourable the General Member has not understood the question: I will repeat it. I did not refer to any individual officer. I wanted to know why there is a difference in the scale of salaries of officers of the same standard and of the same grade in the Public Works Department and the Development Department. He said there is a difference. Why is there a difference?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: For this particular post the officer is drawing Rs. 1,200.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: I want to know why there is a difference in the scale of salaries?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: I would ask for notice of the question.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT: With regard to (d), it is stated in the reply that his exceptionally good work has been recognised by conferring upon him the title of Rao Saheb. Why have Government deviated from that practice by giving him extra pay rather than giving him extra recognition by conferring upon him a higher title? Why has he not been made, for instance, a Rao Bahadur?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: That will also be considered if my honourable friend desires it.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Is it not a fact that Government propose to abolish the Development Department so far as the industrial housing scheme is concerned by transferring its activities to the Public Works Department?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: The reply is there.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: I am not asking about any individual officers. The question refers to a particular office. I am asking about the policy of Government. Is it not a fact that Government propose to abolish the industrial housing section?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: That does not arise out of this question.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: You do not want to give a reply?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN: The matter does not arise out of this question.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: It is not for you to decide whether it arises or not. It is for the Chair to rule whether it arises or not.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I think it is off the particular question. It does not arise out of the question.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : This particular supplementary question does not arise out of this question ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : This particular supplementary question of the honourable member does not arise out of this question.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Was not that officer specially selected from Sind ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : Yes ; he has been selected.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH : How long has this officer been receiving this salary ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : I cannot give the exact number of years or months.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY ABDULLABHOY LALLJEE : How long Government propose to keep him on this post ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : As long as the industrial housing scheme continues.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY ABDULLABHOY LALLJEE : Will it be for 10 years ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : Not 10 years.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY ABDULLABHOY LALLJEE : Will it be for 15 years ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : Much less than that.

Mr. HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALOCH : The officer has been praised highly for technical work, but do Government know that his present duties involve only white washing work of Rs. 80,000 a year which can be done by any overseer ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : The reply is there.

INAM VILLAGE OF BHATGUNKI : FINE UNDER SECTION 85 OF LAND REVENUE CODE.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the village officers of the inam village of Bhatgunki, taluka Indi, district Bijapur, used to collect the revenues from only 14 occupants from a very long time ;

(b) whether the rest of the revenues used to be collected as rents by the inamdar himself from his private tenants ;

(c) whether this practice of the collection of the revenues and rents went on till the year 1926-27 without any objection on the part of Government ;

(d) whether the inamdar has been fined Rs. 500 (five hundred) under section 85 (4) of the Land Revenue Code by the District Deputy Collector for the collection of rents from his private tenants ;

(e) if so, under what circumstances and under which authority the District Deputy Collector fined the inamdar ;

(f) whether the District Deputy Collector subsequently ordered the whole revenue and rents of the village to be collected and credited to the Government treasury through the village officers ;

(g) whether Government are aware of the terms of Government Resolution, Revenue Department, No. 1425, dated 5th February 1915, in this connection ;

(h) if so, whether they will place a copy of it on the Council table ;

(i) whether the record of rights has been introduced into the said village ;

(j) if so, whether the names of the inamdar's tenants from whom the inamdar collected his rents have been shown in the record of rights register, Part II.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) Before the preparation of the record of rights for the village the inamdar used to collect his dues through the village officers in the case of 14 tenants only. When the record of rights for the village was prepared the lands of these 14 tenants were entered in the names of 28 tenants in Part II of the record. The inamdar continued to collect his revenue from these 28 tenants through the village officers.

(b), (c) and (d) Yes, but these tenants were, as is shown by the record of rights, not his private tenants, *i.e.*, tenants of *sheri* lands, but were in the same position as his other tenants. The fact that he was collecting his dues from them direct did not come to the notice of the Prant Officer till 1927.

(e) The inamdar continued to collect his dues directly from these tenants up to the year 1926-27, *i.e.*, after the introduction of the record of rights in the village in the year 1922-23. He had therefore infringed the provisions of section 85 (1) of the Land Revenue Code. The District Deputy Collector therefore fined him Rs. 500 under section 85 (4) of the Code. The inamdar then appealed to the Collector, who has since reduced the fine to Rs. 100 in view of the fact that he simply continued the old practice of making collections directly.

(f) The District Deputy Collector instructed the village officers to collect the inamdar's dues not only from the 28 tenants mentioned in the reply to clause (a) but from all the 87 tenants from the year 1927-28 and to hand over the amount to the inamdar as required by section 85 (1).

(g) Yes, but this Resolution applies only to an inamdar's *sheri* lands.

(h) The substance of the Resolution is given on page 264 of Joglekar's Land Revenue Code, a copy of which is in the library. Government are not prepared to place a copy of the resolution on the table.

(i) Yes.

(j) Yes.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE : With regard to answer (h), will Government be pleased to give the reasons for not being prepared to place a copy of the resolution on the table ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : The usual reason which I have on other occasions given to honourable members. Government resolutions often contain the reports of their officers addressed to Government and intended for the information of Government only. Government do not think it advisable to publish these reports in such circumstances. The

substance of the resolution in the present case has been published. That is sufficient.

RECORD OF RIGHTS AT VISAPUR.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether no heirship enquiry with regard to the deceased Khatedar was held during the last ten years at the Inam village of Visapur, taluka Tasgaon, district Satara;

(b) whether, as a result, the names of the deceased Khatedar have stood in the record of rights registers till now?

(c) whether this fact was brought to the notice of Government officers by the Inamdar, Sardar R. R. Panditrao;

(d) if the reply to (a), (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, who is responsible for this state of affairs;

(e) what action, if any, Government propose to take in this matter?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a) and (b) Heirship enquiries have been made in regard to all deceased Khatedars during the past ten years and a regular heirship enquiry register has been maintained since the introduction of the record of rights in the village. The names of deceased Khatedars no longer remain on the record.

(c) Sardar Panditrao brought no specific case to the notice of the Collector or the local authorities. At the time of the introduction of the record of rights in the village he sent a "yadi" to the Mamlatdar stating that some heirship enquiries remained to be made. Enquiries were in progress in 23 cases when the "yadi" from the Sardar was received by the Mamlatdar, and these were completed later.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR: May I know the date of the receipt of the *yadi* from the sardar by the mamlatdar?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: I am afraid I cannot give it.

DISTRICT LOCAL BOARD, SHOLAPUR: TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES TO MEMBERS.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Sholapur district local board members have been asked by the Assistant Collector to refund the travelling allowances, already received by them in the year 1927;

(b) if so, on what grounds and under what rules and authorities the Assistant Collector did so;

(c) whether the Sholapur district school board members were similarly asked to refund their travelling allowances and whether they were afterwards exempted from refunding the same;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor.

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : (a) and (b) Yes. A claim for refund was made in those cases where the travelling allowance drawn was found to be inadmissible under the rules framed by Government for the grant of travelling allowance to local board members and also in those cases where audit objections had been raised. In the cases in which the audit objections have subsequently been waived by Government the demands for refunds have been cancelled and those already credited have been paid back.

(c) and (d) Yes; members of the School Board also were asked to refund the excess amount which was not admissible to them under the rules or which was objected to in audit and recoveries thereof have been made. Demands for refunds have been cancelled in those cases only where audit objections have been waived by Government.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : With regard to (b) of the answer, how does the Assistant Collector come in in the affairs of the local board ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : At present the district local board of Sholapur, after supersession is under the administration of the Collector and as such he has to see that the travelling allowances are properly audited and refund claimed.

Mr. A. D. SHETH : After the supersession ?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI : Yes.

CIRCLE INSPECTOR PARULEKAR OF RATNAGIRI.

Mr. B. R. NANAL (Ratnagiri District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to the supplement to "Sanjiwani Prakash," dated 11th, 12th April 1928 published at Kochare, taluka Vengurla, district Ratnagiri, in which a communication appears under the caption "To the Members of Legislative Council of Ratnagiri District ;"

(b) whether they have received any report with regard to Circle Inspector Parulekar as stated in that communication ;

(c) whether any inquiries were made in the matter ;

(d) if so, with what result ?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU : (a) Yes.

(b) Complaints were received by the Deputy Collector regarding the Circle Inspector's mismanagement of the repairs of boundary marks.

(c) Yes.

(d) Rs. 5-4-0 were recovered from the contractor and refunded to the khatedars concerned. The Circle Inspector was reprimanded.

LLOYD BARRAGE : DURATION OF CONSTRUCTION WORK.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state for how many years the actual construction work of the Lloyd Barrage (proper) on the right and on the Left Bank has been going on ?

The Honourable Sir GHULAM HUSSAIN : The actual construction of the regulators which form the flanks of the Lloyd Barrage proper was commenced in the autumn of 1926.

FRANCHISE : TALUKDAR! RYOTS.

Mr. A. D. SHETH (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a Talukdar presented an application to the sub-judge at Dhandhuka to debar his ryots from voting at the last council elections ;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative what attitude Government took in the case ;

(c) whether they have received any application from any Talukdar praying that the ryots should not have votes in council election ?

• The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON : (a), (b) and (c) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the replies given to his questions on the same subject at the meetings of the Legislative Council held on the 16th and the 17th March 1927.

DEPRESSED CLASSES, ICHAPORE.

Dr. P. G. SOLANKI : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the fact that the Depressed Class people of village Ichapore, Taluka Jalalpur, District Surat, were tyrannised by the Bhatthelas of the same village and that two persons of that class were assaulted and beaten very severely by the Bhatthelas during the last month ;

(b) whether they are aware that social boycott was imposed upon these people by the order of the Bhatthelas to such an extent that one Lala Chiba and his brother Daya Chiba and his family members were prevented from using the Ferry plying on the river near the village to go to the adjoining villages and that they were also stopped from getting daily necessities of life from the grain dealer's shop in the village ;

(c) whether they are aware that the children of the Depressed Class people were prevented by the Bhatthelas from attending the school in the village for days together ;

(d) whether they are aware that the cattle of these Depressed Class people were not allowed by the Bhatthelas to be taken by their owners for grazing purposes in their own lands and wadas for many days ;

(e) whether they are aware that the social boycott was removed by the Bhatthelas after exacting a fine of Rs. 30 from the Depressed Class population ;

(f) whether the Collector of Surat was approached by one of the sufferers with an appeal to rescue them from the tyranny of the Bhatthelas ? If so, what actions were taken by Government in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: (a)—(f) It appears that a petition containing allegations of the nature suggested by this question was sent to the Collector by post in August 1928. He took the view that it did not constitute a regular complaint and directed that if a breach of the peace was apprehended a regular complaint should be lodged. The petitioners did not take any further action.

B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY: TIMINGS OF THE TRAINS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether in the changed time-table which has been brought into force by B. B. & C. I. Railway from 1st March 1928, 48 down has been timed to reach Viramgaum at 2-10 p.m.;

(b) whether 26 up, a very important train, has timed to leave Viramgaum at 2-13 p.m.;

(c) whether the passengers from Chunwal Paragna of Viramgaum District are put to great hardship while changing from 48 down to 26 up within the short space of three minutes;

(d) whether it is a fact that 26 up train does not wait if 48 down train is late and that many passengers are stranded and put to great inconvenience at Viramgaum;

(e) if so, what steps have been taken to remove the hardships of the passengers?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a) and (b) Yes, but in the time-table for September 1928 and those for subsequent months the 48 down train is scheduled to reach Viramgaum at 1-45 p.m. and the 26 up is scheduled to leave Viramgaum at 2 p.m.

(c) Does not now arise.

(d) No, the 26 up train waits up to a limit of 15 minutes if the 48 down is late.

(e) Does not arise.

INAMDAR OF PATRI: TAGAI TO KOLI TALA BECHAR.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of Tagai paid to Koli Tala Bechar by the Inamdar of Patri;

(b) the year in which the said Tagai was paid;

(c) the amount of money, whether in cash or kind, repaid by Koli Tala Bechar to the Inamdar of Patri;

(d) the amount of outstanding dues of Koli Tala Bechar for which the Inamdar of Patri detained in the Makhal (grainyard) fifty-two maunds and eight and a half seers of rice, falling to the share of the said cultivator Koli Tala Bechar at the time of the distribution of crops during the year 1927;

(e) under what special authority the Inamdar detains crops of cultivators without establishing the claim of his dues in a regular court of law?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a) Rs. 103-6-0.

(b) 1912.

(c) Rs. 63-3-6 were repaid by Tala Bechar in cash in 1914-15.

(d) Rs. 72.

(e) In Patri lands are leased to tenants on the condition that they shall pay up all past, present and future dues, and a piece of land was let to Koli Tala Bechar on this condition. The crops were detained according to the prevailing practice.

SCHOOL BOARD, RANDEK: ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Municipality of Randek which is a local authority under the Primary Education Act appointed the administrative officer of the school board on the 14th July 1928;

(b) whether the Municipality referred the appointment for approval to Government in its letter dated the 23rd July 1928;

(c) whether the Municipality sent a reminder to the Director of Public Instruction on the 24th August 1928;

(d) whether the Municipality sent a reminder to the Honourable Minister of Education on the 21st September 1928;

(e) on what date Government approval to the appointment was given;

(f) on what date the approval was communicated to the local authority;

(g) the reasons for the delay, if any?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: (a), (b) and (c) Yes.

(d) There is no trace of the reminder referred to.

(e) 13th October 1928.

(f) 16th November 1928.

(g) There has been no avoidable delay.

PUBLIC ROADS, DHOLERA: PROPERTY RIGHTS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that section 37 (1) of Land Revenue Code states that all public roads, lanes and paths are the property of Government;

(b) whether in spite of the provision of law referred to in (a), the talukdars of Dholera sell pieces of land on the public roads of Dholera and appropriate the income thereof;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, what action has been taken by Government against the talukdars of Dholera?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a) Yes; subject to the rights of individuals and aggregates of persons as stated in the section.

(b) Some cases of the disposal of land on the public roads have come to the notice of Government.

(c) The question of filing a suit against the talukdars jointly with the District Local Board is under consideration.

LAND GRANTS : BARRAGE ZONE, HYDERABAD DISTRICT.

SYED MIRAN MUHAMMAD SHAH (Hyderabad Sind): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether some lands outside the Barrage Zone in the Hyderabad District have been granted on permanent tenure during the last and the current year;

(b) whether such land included fallow-forfeited land held on 5 years' tenure after forfeiture?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a) Yes.

(b) No.

SYED MIRAN MUHAMMAD SHAH: May I know why the fallow-forfeited lands held on five years' tenure after forfeiture, which originally belonged to the zamindars, have not been restored when lands on permanent tenure were granted?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: I do not know whether any applications have been made for the grant of such lands. If the honourable member will quote specific instances, enquiry will be made.

ODEROLAL-MAHRABPUR RAILWAY: HALA STATION.

SYED MIRAN MUHAMMAD SHAH (Hyderabad Sind): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they intend beginning the construction of the branch railway from Oderolal to Mahrabpur *via* Hala in the near future;

(b) whether it is a fact that the people of Hala have made a petition to the Commissioner in Sind to the effect that the railway station of the abovementioned line should be constructed to the west of the town of Hala to make it nearer to Hala Old and other important villages;

(c) whether Government intend taking action upon the application?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a) Yes. The Railway Board have sanctioned the construction of the following lines:—

(i) A loop line from Mahrabpur to Pad Idan *via* Tharushah.

(ii) A loop line from Nawabshah to Tando-Adam *via* Sakrand and Hala.

(iii) A chord line between Tharushah and Sakrand.

(b) Yes. Counter applications were received from the residents of Old and New Hala respectively.

(c) The Collector of Hyderabad who was consulted agrees with the view of the Vice-President, Hala Municipality, that the new railway station should be located as proposed by the Railway Administration on the East of New Hala. Government agree with the Collector and do not propose to take any action in the matter.

SYED MIRAN MUHAMMAD SHAH: Will Government be pleased to state whether the president of the Hala municipality was also consulted in this matter?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: I am unable to say.

ROAD MAINTENANCE, SIND.

SYED MIRAN MUHAMMAD SHAH (Hyderabad Sind): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The amount of grant paid to each District Local Board in Sind for the construction of roads during the last ten years;

(b) The amount of expenditure incurred by the Government on the construction and maintenance of roads under the Public Works Department in the Hyderabad District during the last ten years;

(c) Whether any "Malhis" are employed for the upkeep of the roads managed by the Public Works Department;

(d) If the reply to (c) be in the affirmative how many such Malhis are employed for the roads in the Hyderabad District?

The Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D. DESAI: (a) The accompanying statement gives the information required:—

Statement showing the grant paid to each District Local Board in Sind for the construction of roads during the last ten years.

Year.	District Local Board, Karachi.	District Local Board, Hyderabad.	District Local Board, Sukkur.	District Local Board, Nawabshah.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1918-19	35,000	23,500	24,000	28,000
1919-20	54,000	50,500	51,000	50,000
1920-21	54,000	50,500	51,000	50,000
1921-22	51,000	47,000	47,000	47,000
1922-23	45,000	40,000	45,000	40,000
1923-24	47,000	40,000	43,000	40,000
1924-25	30,000	36,000	36,000	39,000
1925-26	69,000	60,500	60,500	65,500
1926-27	77,100	55,100	59,400	59,400
1927-28	59,360	72,080	52,330	64,360
Total ..	5,21,460	4,75,180	4,69,530	4,78,260

Year.	District Local Board, Larkana.	District Local Board, Thar Parkar.	District Local Board, Upper Sind Frontier.	Total Government allotment.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1918-19	33,000	23,500	17,000	1,79,000
1919-20	80,000	50,500	36,000	3,72,000
1920-21	80,000	50,500	36,000	3,72,000
1921-22	65,000	47,000	33,000	3,37,000
1922-23	61,000	40,000	20,000	3,00,000
1923-24	59,000	42,000	29,000	3,00,000
1924-25	53,000	37,000	24,000	2,55,000
1925-26	78,000	65,500	43,000	4,42,000
1926-27	81,300	55,100	46,600	4,34,000
1927-28	69,500	72,080	46,400	4,36,500
Total ..	6,59,800	4,83,180	3,40,000	34,27,500

(b)

Year.	Amount.	Remarks.
	Rs.	
1918-19	Nil	The roads came into the charge of Public Works Department in 1920-21
1919-20	Nil	
1920-21	6,111	
1921-22	31,663	
1922-23	59,439	
1923-24	65,012	
1924-25	51,265	
1925-26	48,641	
1926-27	45,431	
1927-28	71,422	

(c) and (d) Could be answered after the meaning of "Malhis" is explained by the Honourable Member.

TAGAI, NASIK DISTRICT.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state the amount of tagai sanctioned for the year 1928-29 for the Nasik district?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: Rs. 10,000.

THERGAON STATION: GOODS SHED.

Rao Saheb R. V. VANDEKAR (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that there is a large traffic in onions and other vegetables from Thergaon railway station on the G. I. P. main line to Bombay;

(b) whether they received any petitions from the merchants dealing in onions and other vegetables that their goods are spoiled by being exposed to rain and sun owing to the want of a goods shed for storing their goods at Thergaon railway station;

(c) if so, whether they have taken steps to provide a goods shed for storing the perishable produce?

The Honourable Mr. J. L. RIEU: (a) Yes.

(b) No. A petition to that effect was, however, received by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

(c) A wagon body has been provided, as the provision of a goods shed is not justified by the traffic offering.

CIVIL COURT, MALEGAON: PLEADERS' ROOM.

Mr. G. A. D. WASIF (Central Division): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to the inadequacy of accommodation in the pleaders' room attached to the Malegaon Civil Court;

(b) if so, whether they propose to increase the present accommodation and when?

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: (a) and (b) It is reported that the pleaders' room attached to the Malegaon Civil Court is not large enough, and that plans for increasing the accommodation are being prepared.

BILL No. III OF 1929 (A BILL, FURTHER TO AMEND THE INDIAN STAMP—BOMBAY AMENDMENT—ACT 1922).

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Mr. President, I introduce Bill * No. III of 1929 (A Bill further to amend the Indian Stamp—Bombay Amendment—Act, 1922).

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Bill No. III of 1929 (A Bill further to amend the Indian Stamp—Bombay Amendment—Act, 1922) is introduced.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Mr. President, I beg leave to move the first reading of this Bill. In doing so

First reading.

I am not going to make any long speech. As honourable members are aware, the life of this bill has been renewed by them twice for one year each time. This bill was passed in the year 1922 to have effect for a period of four years ; and after that the bill was extended for one year and after that it was again extended by one year. As most of the honourable members of this House were present at the time of the debate on this bill during the last two years, it is hardly necessary for me to make a long speech : I will only recapitulate a few salient points. During the last three days honourable members have listened to the discussion on the condition of the finances of this presidency. Many of them have styled the budget a deficit one, and most of them have said that the position of this Government financially is very insecure ; some of them even thought that we were heading towards bankruptcy. If that is so, it is all the more reason why the revenue from this bill and from the Court-fees Bill is absolutely necessary for the minimum expenses of Government as they have been placed before this honourable House. In spite of the increase in stamp duties by the Stamp Act and the Court-fees Act, I find that the revenue which we are getting is dwindling down because of the depression in trade and other causes. I will just quote to the House the figures from non-judicial stamps as we have received them since 1922-23 up to 1927-28. In 1922-23, when the stamp duty was increased, the revenue was 94·85 lakhs ; in 1923-24, 91·20 lakhs ; in 1924-25, 97·85 lakhs—during all these years there was some money which was received from the Government of India for the stamps supplied to them—1925-26, 96·90 lakhs ; 1926-27 (revised estimates) 93·6 lakhs. If you go to the year 1920-21 you will find that the revenue was 1,01 lakhs. Of course that was the boom period. So, in spite of the increase in the stamp duty the revenue is diminishing. Now, ours is not the only presidency where the stamp duties have been increased. In other presidencies also these duties have been increased in the same proportion in which this bill seeks to levy. In Bengal, Madras and the Punjab, the Acts sanctioning the increased rates are permanently put on the statute book, and the rates of duty which we seek to levy by this amending bill are the same as they are in other presidencies. I will just quote for the information of this

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honourable House figures showing how the Bengal revenues under this head have gone on increasing. The non-judicial stamp revenue in Bengal has risen from 101·60 lakhs in 1922-23 to 1,29·50 in 1927-28. In Madras it has gone up from 89·26 lakhs to 103·07 lakhs. So, this presidency has got less revenue from non-judicial stamps than Bengal and Madras, while as a matter of fact our standard of expenditure is higher. Honourable members are also aware that according to the Montagu-Chelmsford Report the revenue from non-judicial stamps was intended to be given to the central Government, but that a change was effected by the Meston settlement as the authors of that settlement recommended that the revenue from non-judicial stamps ought to go to the provincial governments and that recommendation was accepted by the Joint Parliamentary Committee. The question was again referred to the Taxation Enquiry Committee, and that committee recommended, as all honourable members are aware, that non-judicial stamps revenue should be given to the central Government and in lieu of that we should be given a pie rate in the assessable income for income-tax. Now the question is before the Simon Commission and also before the financial expert who has been appointed to help that Commission. It has been pointed out to this House more than once that they will take as their basis the revenue which we forego at the time the exchange takes place. If the revenue which we have to forego is less, the share we get in the income-tax will be proportionately less. That has got nothing to do with the revision of the Meston settlement: the revision of the Meston settlement is a separate thing altogether. For the transfer of the non-judicial stamps revenue from the provincial exchequer to the central exchequer, the central Government is to give a pie rate—three pies in a rupee of the assessable income—to the Bombay Government. Now, this question was discussed twice in the Finance Members' Conference at Delhi, but as other provinces objected this question is still hanging fire. This is one of the grounds why we should keep our non-judicial stamp revenue as high as we can. As soon as it becomes a central subject, then, necessarily, according to the recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Committee, there will be a uniform rate for all the presidencies. Except Bihar and Orissa all other provinces have changed their rates and brought them to the same level as we have put them in the amending bill.

As I said, three presidencies have put the Act permanently on the statute book. The condition of our finances is such that unless we get this much revenue, we are not even able to make the two ends meet, and if this honourable House throws away this bill and the other Court-fees Bill, then Rs. 20 lakhs, which is the additional amount expected from these two bills, will have to be rationed out in the same way as I explained to this honourable House on all the departments. I have been listening to the debate, and I find that many honourable members want that there should be more money for education, there should be more money by way of grants-in-aid to local boards for roads. So there is demand for more money; at the same time they see the state of the finances, they see how we are being hampered; and if unfortunately the

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House comes to the conclusion that these two bills should not be put on the statute book, then the result is that there must be a cut of Rs. 20 lakhs and that cut will have to be distributed among all the departments in the arithmetical proportion. So, the result would be that the activities of the transferred or nation-building departments will have to be still further curtailed, and it will be a very painful duty for the Finance Department to reduce the grants towards education, towards public health and towards sanitation. So, these are the things which the House will please take into consideration. I kept before them the financial condition very clearly as to where we stand. The departments have been already so much rationed that the expenditure has been cut to the very bone, and with the greatest difficulty the budget could be balanced and one lakh could be shown as surplus. But the non-passing of these two bills will mean a loss of Rs. 20 lakhs. Though we have enhanced the rates, still we are not getting any increased revenue because of these causes, because of the depression in trade. So, I beg of this honourable House that considering the state of the finances, considering that they all want that the activities in the nation-building departments should be increased and more money given to them, they will be good enough to pass the first reading of this bill.

Question proposed.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI (Indian Merchants' Chamber) : Mr. President, the bill that is introduced is a money bill and a bill which is going to remain permanently on the statute book. The Honourable the Finance Member in introducing this bill has only shown that because they have mismanaged the finances of this presidency the Government must be encouraged by voting and making such a measure a permanent measure on the statute book. I do not know whether this House will think themselves justified in voting and supplying money to a Government who have not cared for the finances of this presidency as they should have cared, and are Government justifying this demand because they have wasted a large portion of the revenue that they have collected mainly from the agriculturist people. Another reason I wish to say is, have Government justified their demand by showing anything towards the improvement of the financial condition either of the agriculturist people or of the trade or of industry, so that they can demand more money and make this a permanent measure ? The only argument that they bring forward is that when they make this permanent, when it becomes a central subject as it may become, this presidency may be benefited. On that hope this House is renewing this bill every year for a year or two and we were hoping that we would be getting something from it. What is the use of supplying more moneys unless the House is satisfied that moneys already given are properly used ? The Honourable the Finance Member said that they will have to ration the grants of all the departments if the bills are not passed. Even if they ration, what else could be done ? Who is going to pay this money and on whom will it fall ? That should be the first consideration before such a measure

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is proposed to be permanently put on the statute book of this Government. The total revenue of this presidency, though it is put as Rs. 16 crores or Rs. 15,73,00,000 I believe when you actually take out the figures, you will find that the real total revenue deducting the entries that are made which are called cross entries will come to, according to me, to Rs. 13,73,20,000 and this is the total of all the heads that Government have themselves shown on pages 14 and 15, and the total expenditure is.....

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : May I correct the honourable member ? The total revenue shown on page 15 is Rs. 15,71,83,000 (ordinary Rs. 15,23,93,000 and Development Rs. 47,90,000). You remove the Development revenue. Then you will have Rs. 15,23,93,000. Out of that, you can deduct Rs. 30,49,000 transferred from Famine Fund, and you can also deduct Rs. 83,10,000 the interest which we receive from the presidency bodies. Making these two deductions you will get Rs. 14,10,34,000, which is the actual revenue.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI : According to me, I was going to keep the figure of interest back, because that is the main figure on which I will speak later on. If we do not take into consideration the item of interest, on either side for argument's sake, then the real income in the shape of revenue is Rs. 13,73,23,000. I will point out to the Honourable the Finance Member how I calculate it. On page 14 you will find first of all a total of Rs. 11,83,66,000 ; then on the same page the next amount shown is Rs. 70,22,000 ; then you have got Rs. 79,22,000 ; then on page 15 under Civil Works you have Rs. 18,05,000 and 21,95,000 on Superannuation stationery and miscellaneous ; then you have got Rs. 10,000. And it all comes to Rs. 13,73,23,000. These are the figures I have taken because the other items are of interest, which I am taking as cross entries, so that there may be no misunderstanding. The figures are so complicated that I am trying to put them in as concise and clear a manner as possible.

The expenditure is Rs. 12,72,76,000, irrespective of interest. The other expenditure that I take is on page 19, which is the capital expenditure. But really speaking, the House should understand that though it is debited to capital, ultimately it will have to be paid from revenue even by instalments from Revenue. And excluding the figure of Lloyd Barrage, I take the figures of 56-A and XVI A and B, totalling Rs. 63,35,000. If you take these figures, you will have a total left of Rs. 13,36,11,000. Thus, the House will understand that really speaking, except the heavy item of interest, there is no deficit in the budget. Now, unless this House is assured that these items are going to end here, it is no use proposing further taxation. In the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member he has made very clear to this House that even the question of repayment of the Lloyd Barrage loan is to be settled hereafter. That is, from 1935-36 we shall have to make some arrangement for the repayment of the Lloyd Barrage loan. In the year 1936 we have to repay a loan of Rs. 10 crores which this presidency has raised for

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Development. It is for these reasons that unless this House brings pressure to bear on Government to find means by which they can retrench, it is no use going on sanctioning these 20 lakhs and thereby encouraging Government to incur more expenditure.

About interest, according to my calculations the interest comes to about 2 crores 5 lakhs. I can prove this by a reference to page 63 of the Blue Book. There is shown a revenue of Rs. 1,46,45,000 and expenditure of Rs. 1,86,98,000, thereby giving the impression to a layman unacquainted with finance that the expenditure on interest is only 40 lakhs, but really speaking the interest on expenditure according to my calculations is 204 lakhs. One simple reason is this. On page 25 the interest is shown as Rs. 2,97,62,000 (two crores, ninety-seven lakhs sixty-two thousand) *plus* Rs. 32,07,000 and Rs. 4,91,000, total of which comes to Rs. 3,33,90,000, three crores, thirty-three lakhs, ninety thousand and after deducting from this Rs. 47,42,000 which is given in the footnote and the total of the three items Rs. 14,13,000, Rs. 23,47,000 and Rs. 45,50,000 comes to Rs. 8,31,000. The total of these two items will be Rs. 1,30,52,000 (one crore thirty lakhs, fifty-two thousand). If you deduct Rs. 1,30,52,000 from Rs. 3,33,90,000 the remainder, adding 34 lakhs to it, will be Rs. 2,03,38,000 (two crores, three lakhs, thirty-eight thousand). The expenditure thus on this item will be about 204 lakhs.

The original figure is 204 lakhs. The Honourable the Finance Member has told us that 43 crores is our debt though the debt figure is 5,453 lakhs. He has deducted those items which we have given to the local bodies. Even agreeing to the figures given by the Honourable the Finance Member of 43 crores, if we take at 5 per cent. 204 lakhs will be found correct from that view also. From these figures the House will see that though there is a little surplus of our real Revenue and Expenditure, the real deficit is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ crores due to money interest charges. It is not a deficit of 20 or 40 lakhs. Even though those who are inclined to vote and help Government in regard to these 20 lakhs, they will not be helping the financial position of this Presidency because they will supply by so doing all this additional money only to spend it in an irresponsible manner.

This House has been so often told so by me and by my party and yet there has been no response from the other parties. It may be so for various reasons but now I want to ask, irrespective of any party, irrespective of any feelings, does the House not believe that we have reached the stage when the budgets are prepared and are put before this House in such a complicated way that few can properly grasp their real significance? Even the representative of the European Chamber of Commerce the honourable member (Mr. G. L. Winterbotham) in a conversation I had with him told me that the budget has been prepared in a very complicated way. It may be a move on the part of Government, but I want the House, irrespective of their parties, to oppose any measure of this character unless the House is assured that our finances are going

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to be put right for the future, failing which assurance this House is not justified in paying a single farthing to Government. We should therefore throw out this measure and not support it on any account.

Another thing is that a new burden of fresh taxation is going to be imposed. I referred very briefly in my general discussion to this subject. Why are measures of taxation proposed in any part of the world by the administrative Government? They are only proposed with a view to give you certain facilities, to give any betterment of our income. Has Government in the last ten years made any advance except that they claim that they have given above maximum 40 lakhs for education? The favourite argument that the education and other nation-building departments will be taken care of if additional taxation is sanctioned, is always brought forward and has been brought up this time also. This presidency and this country are being taxed, though not in a direct way, in many indirect manners which I will show to the House presently. Is there any country in the world which is paying taxation by being compelled to keep a certain portion of foreign particular services (whether they are necessary or not) for which we have to provide funds all the same in a certain proportion? I think the House has seen that now an attempt is being made to thrust the Indian Civil Service officers into the High Court also, although the proposal is very strongly resented by brilliant lawyers who always, in other matters, support Government in their measures.

Another thing. Only the day before yesterday the honourable members of the House must have noticed how flourishing the Railway Budget is, but what does the flourishing Railway Budget mean? It means that agricultural people and agricultural produce which are moving will have to pay more for the necessities of life and manufacturers will have to pay more, and all of which brings huge profits to the Railways. This is also a sort of indirect taxation. If Government want to have taxation proposals certified, let them do so but the House should not on any account sanction unjustifiable taxation, whatever the views of the respective parties may be in other directions, until and unless the financial problem is well understood by the House not for one coming year but for long future as the measure is permanent.

The only point that can be made from the figures is that there is a deficit really owing to our commercial undertakings and that is about 2 crores. The honourable member the Finance Secretary replied to my remarks in the general discussion and said that nothing should be sold too soon. That we have been hearing not to-day but for the last four years. I do not see why concerns which are not financially profitable should be kept on and worked at a loss which goes on accumulating interest and working losses and has to be borne by the taxpayers who have to pay for the upkeep of the establishments, etc. I will point out one direction in which there can be economy without touching the nation-building departments. On page 6, Blue Book, you will find the head "Civil Works." In the year 1923-24 our expenditure was Rs. 97,92,000 under this head.

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In 1924-25 it was Rs. 91,87,000, in 1925-26 it was Rs. 91,88,000, in 1926-27 it was Rs. 1,22,09,000, in 1927-28 it was Rs. 1,47,36,000, in 1928-29 it was Rs. 1,54,35,000, while for next year it is Rs. 1,60,00,000. Of course, out of this amount, I will deduct the amount for the Bombay Development Scheme, *viz.*, Rs. 29,56,000, but even deducting that it will be Rs. 1,30,00,000 (one crore thirty lacs). In that way they are going on adding to the expenditure on Civil Works, however unnecessary it might be. I would like also to bring to the notice of the House the fact mentioned in the note that the expenditure for establishments, tools and plant, which was 21½ per cent. and 1½ per cent. has been raised during the next year to 24 per cent. and 3 per cent. It may be that out in the districts we have to hold so many branches that the expenditure may come to 24 per cent. and 3 per cent., or 27 per cent. But here in the case of compact bodies, the cost of establishment and tools and plant is never more than 6 per cent. to 8 per cent. If Government are really desirous of helping this House, they should not insist on this bill being made a permanent measure unless they have carried out possible retrenchment. They must find out directions in which economy can be effected, and Civil Works is one of such departments. Even in Civil Works you will find that they are buying buildings that were originally bought by the Development Department in boom times, and the losses are shared by Civil Works. If such things are done, we will not be justified in sanctioning such measures. I wish to press upon the attention of the Honourable the Finance Member that he should not at all bring such measures before the Council for sanction. In his budget speech he has honestly taken pride in the fact that he is the second Indian member who has been entrusted with the portfolio of finance. I should say that it is no matter for pride that the Finance Department is given over to him after ruining the finances of this Presidency. It is the most difficult job that has been given to him. He should not shirk his responsibility. He should be firm, and he should help this side of the House, to which he belongs, by cutting down all this unnecessary expenditure, and by putting before us, as he has tried to do in his preliminary budget speech, all the figures in such a way that even a layman can understand them and the facts as to in how many years this Presidency is going to be free from the debts that have been incurred? In the past even a proposal of 60 years equated payments has been suggested to him. I ask, after how many years is the Presidency going to be free from the debt that has been incurred to-day? If honourable members will carefully read the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member, they will find that, according to the Honourable the Finance Member himself, for 60 years more, they will have to find payments for the wiping out of the debts that have been incurred. It may be said that they will be recovered from the recoveries that are expected from the Lloyd Barrage from 1935-36, but we have to wait for that. When he himself believes and admits that for 60 years they have mortgaged the progress of the Presidency, is it fair that the Honourable the Finance Member who has shown an inclination to understand the real financial position, should recommend this House to accept this measure, which is

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only encouraging a spend-thrift and wasteful Government by supplying it with more money? With these remarks, I beg of the House, at least this part of the House, that they should throw out this bill, and not to support any measure which is going to supply the Government with a single farthing more than is necessary for the actual administration of this Presidency. I have shown that there is no necessity to accept a loss on account of interest of Rs. 2 crores. Otherwise, there is a small surplus of few lakhs. All these deficits that are to be found are to be found for the interest of these wasteful departments, which are going to be continued. It is true that Government are in a position to flout public opinion, but let them remember that if they are going to flout responsible public opinion in this House, they will be doing an injury not only to themselves, but they will be doing an injury to the whole of the Presidency.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : Sir, I wholeheartedly join the appeal which has been made by the honourable member who has just resumed his seat (Mr. Lalji Naranji), certainly to this side of the House alone, to throw out this measure. I think that the Government benches started the work of the new Council Hall on a very inauspicious occasion. Usually it happens that after the opening ceremony of a new institution, we always have some sort of a benediction on the public or the ratepayers from whom the money is raised. The first measure, after the opening of this new Hall, as a blessing from this "benign" government to the people of the Presidency, is a money bill, an appeal from the Honourable the Finance Member to pay more, so that they may enjoy more. The Honourable the Finance Member has been repeating practically every day, whenever he has had a chance to speak—he makes no secret of the fact as the honourable member the Finance Secretary makes a futile effort to make a secret of it—that we are on the verge of insolvency, if not actually insolvent. I say that the Honourable the Finance Member has not made a secret of it. The honourable member the Finance Secretary says that we are able to meet our liabilities, and therefore we cannot be called insolvent. Well, Sir, there are ways and means of meeting your liabilities, and one of them is to incur debts outside to meet your liabilities inside. With debt liabilities of Rs. 43 crores, which he has to meet from the revenues of the Presidency, the honourable member the Finance Secretary still wants to maintain that we are not on the verge of insolvency. He takes an optimistic view. I say it is not robust optimism, as perhaps he thinks it is; I call it perverse mentality; they will not see facts in the face as they are, but try to point out something very different from what the actual, real figures show.

Now, at the opening of this hall, it was remarked that it has been provided with an apparatus to produce artificial cold atmosphere, to prevent unnecessary heat, I take it both in the debates as well as in the atmosphere. I assure the honourable members on the other side that these artificial means will not remove the naturally generated heat that is on this side of the House as well as outside the House, wherever you go in the Presidency or the country, and that heat is not going to disappear

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by artificial means in the House, or by terrorist methods outside, launching prosecutions and the rest of it. It can only go when you change your methods of Government, and govern in a human and civilised manner, so that the people may get the benefit of good government and enjoy the benefits of life. It is only then that the heat can go, and not by such artificial means.

I may assure my honourable friends that the Honourable the Finance Member has introduced the bill very half-heartedly and apologetically. I quite appreciate the very difficult and embarrassing position in which he has been placed. This is not the first time that this measure has come before the House. Perhaps, this is the third or the fourth time; it is the fifth time, I am told. But this is the first time that the present Finance Member finds himself on the wrong side in the introduction of this measure. If you look at his previous record, even last year's record, although he has come forward to sponsor the bill on behalf of Government on the present occasion, all through, not once or twice, but every time that this bill and the Court-fees Act Amendment Bill have come before the House, he has been the staunchest opponent of those measures, basing his opposition on very sound grounds. If you turn to the records of the speeches that he has made, the patriotic and nationalistic speeches that he has made, and compare them with his utterances of to-day, you will feel sorry for the Honourable the Finance Member that he has left his comfortable position on this side and made himself uncomfortable and embarrassing on the other side. Now he puts forward exactly the arguments which we used to hear in his good company on this side of the House, from other honourable members on the opposite side. What were those arguments? When the bill came for the first time five years ago, we apprehended that it was only a thin end of the wedge; and it was only a vote-catching dodge. If it was proposed as a permanent measure, some members were not prepared to give their vote. We were then told that the Government would approach the Government of India to remit our provincial contribution, which had been taken away unjustly and which would have provided us with ample money for our ordinary expenditure and we were further assured that as soon as the contribution was remitted, there would be no necessity for this bill. Now, the provincial contribution has ceased. The contribution to the Famine Insurance Fund has ceased. Now, we have got one crore and 19 lakhs more of revenue. Still the same old story of financial stringency: if you do not give us this measure—this is a bayonet pointed at the opposition—the nation-building departments will be starved, there will be no education, there will be no medical aid, there will be no communications, and what remains will only be sufficient for our happy-family the reserved half and for our maintenance. I see there the sincere bureaucratic tinge in the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member. How soon they change? It was only very recently, when he was a member of the nationalist party and a real representative of the people of Thana he always took a right attitude. How soon they change in that atmosphere? This instance makes us feel that this nation or people know not whom to trust. We met with the same difficulties two

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years ago and he suggested quite different measures to get rid of the financial difficulty. We quite appreciated the financial difficulties were there. In view of the fact that the nation-building departments should not be starved, he suggested a wise measure. In 1925 he suggested—I suggest to him now his own advice—and I am quoting from his speech :

“ If that is so, may I request the honourable members occupying the Government benches who belong to the All-India services, that they will set an example to other members of their service by saying : “ Though we are entitled to these higher rates of pay under the new rules we shall forego them, because the finances of this presidency do not permit the payment of such high rates. ”

This was stated in 1925 by Mr. G. B. Pradhan, honest representative of the constituency of Thana, a very sane, a very sensible suggestion. I repeat his own words. If the financial position in 1929 is worse than it was in 1925, as he himself admits, I appeal to him to set a good example to the honourable colleagues by stating : “ What justification have we for this huge salary we are drawing, when the finances of the presidency do not permit ? Shall we not set an example ? Although I am entitled to so much, considering the financial condition I feel I am not justified in drawing this much salary. ” That will lead the way for his honourable colleagues to follow his example. I am appealing to the Honourable the Finance Member in his own words. This appeal comes with a greater emphasis in view of the fact that the financial position is still worse than it was in 1925. It is going to be worse still. How far are you going to keep up the finances by these measures, leaving the untouchables on the other side, although in the words of the Honourable Member they are not justified in having this extravagance and luxury that they have been enjoying to-day under this financial stringency. What is the good of cutting down the salaries of clerks drawing Rs. 200 and reducing the number of unfortunate peons ? That is not retrenchment in the right direction. We want the tall poppies to be pruned properly. Then only the financial condition can be improved. Look at the figures in the budget. I am not going into details, because I cannot persuade them to change their views. Even if they are convinced, they are not inclined to receive any just suggestion. Is this luxury and extravagance shown in your Blue Book and White Book justified ? Is it humane ? Is it right that, when the people are starving, you should do all this ? You say that there is no money for educating the children, no roads, no communications, no remission to the agriculturists. Worse still you want to sell poisonous drugs to the people in order to get some more money for the coffers of Government. The honourable member Mr. Ginwalla referred to a press communiqué. Government are prepared to go to any extent to get money from any source, no matter what the consequence is. Two lakhs are to be got from the unfortunate school going children. The present Honourable Minister for Education while he was on this side last year opposed the proposal when it was brought last year. Occasions are very rare when the Honourable Minister for Education opposed Government. This was one of those rare occasions when Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad, not then still a Minister, opposed the raising of fees for the school-going

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children. I find the Honourable Minister shakes his head complacently. Consistency is not a virtue for them, because they can change their views as they like. Now, he can give an explanation. But we on this side of the House and outside the House are entitled to draw our own conclusions that he was not acting up to the convictions which he had before he was transferred to the other side. He himself opposed this proposal only 12 months back. Two lakhs from the school-going children, four lakhs from the policy of tipsyism. One honourable member said yesterday that there were advocates of prohibition—perhaps there are also advocates of tipsyism. One reading his speech would come to the conclusion that he would go even to the extent of suggesting to Government that since they have incurred so much expenditure, why they should not have a free bar in the building to some honourable members who desire to indulge themselves. There are members of that type. Looking at the press note, it says :

"Proceeding on these lines Government draw attention to the fact that in 1922 the sale of charas in the Town and Island of Bombay was prohibited and an annual revenue of approximately Rs. 4 lakhs thereby sacrificed. If as a result of this prohibition the use of this drug had been stopped this sacrifice of revenue would not have been in vain. The result however has been the reverse. The desire for charas on the part of many people remains strong, and it is now being met by illicit supplies which can be bought anywhere in the city. It is entirely beyond the resources of the excise authorities and of the police to put an end to the traffic in a drug, which, unlike cocaine, is not brought into Bombay by sea from abroad, but is imported by land by various methods. Government therefore consider that so long as there is a genuine demand for charas, it is one that should be met to a reasonable extent and by lawful means."

Any demand that is virtuous, that is legitimate, is to be turned down. We want self-government, a legitimate demand ; we want freedom, we are not entitled to that ; these are demands which they cannot concede. They say, you ask for charas or for indulgence in any vicious habits, we will satisfy you to your heart's content, only on one condition, namely that that concession brings us some money. Is that, Sir, the way in which a civilised Government should act ? Some people desire to have charas, and Government do not think it right that their vicious desire to have charas should be denied to them. They consider that it is the duty of Government to provide for their wards—they call themselves trustees and the people are their wards—provide what ?—poison. Why do you not speak openly and frankly ; why make your position worse by putting forward excuses and pretexts when none exist ? Tell frankly that your financial position is such that you will not stop short of anything, only that you must have your luxuries, your motor cars, your hill journeys, your bands, your bodyguards and 12 lakhs of rupees for the Government House expenses. Say : "Whether you give money for other things or not, we will find money for our luxuries. We care a rap whether your children are able to go to school or not ; whether you have hospitals or not ; we will not sacrifice a jot of our luxuries ; we will not retrench even one of our dozen Secretaries ; we will not have less luxurious bungalows ; we will not abandon our hill journey. You go on paying, and we will go on with our luxuries." Is that the attitude that a Government which lays a claim to be called progressive and

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civilised should adopt? For the last four days I was quiet, because I felt that the general discussion of the budget was useless. Every Finance Member's concluding remarks always contain the sentiment: "We are thankful to the honourable members on the other side for the valuable suggestions that they have made and the criticisms they have offered; we will try to act up to them for the next time." The next year comes, and the Blue Book and the White Book are the same. If you examine them from 1922-23 onwards, they are always the same. It is only a mere sham; it is done in order to deceive the outside world, that the financial control is given to the representatives of the people. This is a mere formal ceremony. If you examine the proceedings from 1922-23, you will find several suggestions and constructive proposals made by the non-official members on this side. Have they been given effect to? No. The honourable members on the other side start with the assumption that these bills are already passed. They take it for granted that the bills are passed, and the budget is framed on the assumption that the sum of 20 lakhs, which has to be sanctioned by the House is already there; the figures and the balances are framed on the assumption that both these money bills are already passed. They know they are in an entrenched position; they anticipate very rightly; they have to go through a certain ceremony to satisfy the constitution to deceive some people outside that they are governing with the consent of the governed. "We are secure; we will get what we want; we will pass this measure whether you will it or not,"—that is their attitude. The only real right that we have and it is a small right, and I want the House to realise it fully—is to refuse sanction to the new bills. Even then the matter does not stop there; they can enact the measure in spite of the refusal of sanction. Still, I ask honourable members to remember that the only privilege they have is to refuse to grant new money bills. Once you grant these money bills, it is impossible to make them effect any retrenchment. After the money is given the situation will be absolutely hopeless. Therefore, I appeal to my honourable friends on this side to realise that we have reached a stage where the taxpayers can bear no further burden.

The figures that the Honourable the Finance Member gave yesterday about the expenditure on transferred departments are rather misleading. If you look at the 1922-23 budget, page 7, you will see the expenditure on transferred departments was 6,16 lakhs, but to-day 1929-30 it is 50 lakhs less. Howsoever you may juggle with the figures, howsoever you may try to give them appearances, the fact is there that we have reached a point in taxation beyond which we cannot go. We have also gone to a length of suffering and oppression beyond which we cannot go. I can understand our being taxed heavily if we get equal benefits in return.

The Honourable the Finance Member has referred to statistics in other provinces of this country. I do not see any difference between the two: it is six of the one and half a dozen of the other. They are also suffering in the same way as we are. The real comparison should be

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between the figures of this Presidency and the figures in any other part of the world, East or West, and if you make that comparison, you will find that this country is the most heavily taxed in proportion to income *per capita*. With regard to the nation-building departments, there is no other country in the world which is so backward as the presidency and country. The Honourable the Finance Secretary is taking a note. If he wants any figures, I can give him figures to show that in point of benefits we are the lowest and in point of taxation we are the highest.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: I want to know from what book the honourable member got this figure six crores.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: The Honourable the Finance Member is in an extremely favourable position; he has got the right of final reply, and I have no right of reply to him. That being so, he has no right to interrupt me, and I cannot allow any interruption.

The record of this Government is one of which they ought to be ashamed. Yet they come forward asking for more money and more money. I will only appeal to this House to realise the position of this Council: the only way to secure retrenchment and to compel them to give up their luxuries and extravagance is to refuse further grants of money. Let them manage to keep their own house in order first, and then let them come up to us. I ask honourable members of this House to remember that whatever class we belong to, we all suffer equally; they do not say that a Muhammadan should suffer less or a Hindu should suffer more or a Parsi should suffer less. As we all suffer equally we must stand together and make firm resolve to suffer no further. I do hope that this side of the House will throw out the measure. Once you throw out the measure, retrenchment, for which we have been clamouring and which has been refused, will follow: they will be compelled to have retrenchment; the administration will go on as smoothly, nay even better, without this taxation than with it. With these few words I hope the honourable members will throw out the bill.

Mr. K. M. MUNSHI (Bombay University): Sir, this House has been discussing these finance bills year after year, and I feel that the discussion has now an atmosphere of extreme unreality about it. My friend the Honourable the Finance Member is waiting for what he perhaps considers a tedious discussion to end, to carry his official block into the Government lobby and carry through his bills. The attacks which are made by members, the representatives of the people, have been repeated so often that I am sure, so far as the other side of the House is concerned, they have lost their sting, lost their effect and lost whatever value they had with them. Sir, the only question that is before the House is to express itself one way or another by voting more than by speaking, because the records of this House contain in themselves every conceivable argument which could be advanced against this bill, even the arguments from such an able member of the Council as my honourable friend the Finance

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Member himself. Of course, we have to hear now his arguments for the bill.

Sir, I propose to place only one point of view before the House. Sir, had it been a case of a budget in the real sense of the term, a budget with a constructive policy, a budget which is giving us some hope, then the members on this side of the House could easily have been invited to assist the Honourable the Finance Member in supporting this measure. But, as it is, Sir, he himself has very frankly admitted that there are financial difficulties; that in spite of remissions, in spite of curtailment of famine fund, in spite of various other benefits which he has directly or indirectly received, the situation is hopeless; and that the budget could not be better than what it is to-day, in its present unsatisfactory condition. That is the whole tenor of his speech. To such a budget, Sir, it would be impossible for any member on the popular side to give support. Sir, we expected, when my honourable friend the Finance Member was promoted to the dignity of the Finance portfolio, that fresh as he was from public life, at least, he would give us a budget with a hope, a budget with a policy, a budget which at least would make some effort to take us out of the hopeless financial condition in which we are. But what is the budget that he has placed before us? It extends no hope; it quiets no anxiety. It merely says, "Well, we cannot do better". It is, and I say it with due apology to the fresh looks and the promising career of my honourable friend the Finance Member, really a dying man's budget, a budget without any hope, a budget without any future. And since, as a part of such a budget a finance bill of this nature is put forward, my submission is that it should be thrown out. It is the duty of the Government, when a situation arises of this kind, to take experts into confidence, to take members and the public into confidence and consider the whole problem of the finances of this presidency, and find out some way to lead us out of the darkness in which we find ourselves. Nothing of the kind is done. All that is done is a repetition of the self same process, merely balancing the two sides of the account, and then saying "Here is our budget; here is the official block behind to vote and support us; and it is no use your amending it." This is the continuation of the old policy, Sir, and it is not possible for us to participate in this policy any further. Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member told us proudly of the nine years' career of the reformed Council, "Look to the nation-building departments; this has been done and that has been done, and on bills like this alone are the nation-building departments fed." Now, Sir, the less we talk about these nation-building departments, the better. This joke has been perpetrated on this House year after year. I will take only the number of primary schools. Sir, the reforms were part of a scheme for the advancement of democratic institutions, and the first and the fundamental duty of a democratic body would be to see that the masters,—the people,—are properly educated. And after nine years of budgets like this, what has this Government, with its irremovable Finance Member and its official block, done for our masters? Sir, in 1920 there was one school to 2·3

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villages. Now there is one school to 2·2 villages. So, at the rate at which we are going, we shall require about 900 years to have one primary school in every village in the presidency ! And that is the work that has been done by the policy which has been carried on by the Government of this presidency, and that policy has been carried out with the assistance of budgets like this, with promises like this. And in view of this, Sir, the only thing that a self-respecting House can do is to leave Government to their own powers of raising moneys as they like. With these words I will appeal to the House to throw out this measure.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Sir, we must oppose this bill, and I think it is in the interests of Government that they should drop these money bills. I can prove that the law of diminishing returns has begun to operate. Even the Honourable the Finance Member when he was introducing this bill, said that though additional taxes were imposed, he was not getting additional revenue. I remember that when the Swaraj party first came into this House, it had unceremoniously thrown out the Court-fees Bill, which was introduced in the year 1924 ; and even in the notes that are appended to these bills Government have said that for two years the Court-fees Bill that was rejected did not operate. Now, Sir, I want to point out that even though the fees were reduced they got much more in those days than what they are getting now. In the year 1924-25, the year in which the Court-fees Bill was thrown out by this House, the income that they received was Rs. 1,78,06,000. In the year 1925-26 the income they received was Rs. 1,76,34,000. But look to the year in which they again introduced this measure, and what has been the result in those days ? There was a drop in the revenue in the very next year, 1926-27, to Rs. 1,67,57,000. That is to say, by increasing fees and increasing taxes paid by the people, they had a drop in the revenue of 10 lakhs. Afterwards they have not been able to reach even in this current year the 178 lakhs which they obtained in 1924-25 when the Court-fees Act was rejected. The reason is that after a certain limit higher taxation brings in smaller revenue. Two or three days ago we heard that the Railway Budget introduced in the Assembly is bringing, by a reduction in fares, more revenue. They reduced fares on certain railways and they got much more revenue by reducing this kind of taxation. The reason is that there is a certain limit up to which increase in taxation may bring more revenue, but after a certain limit is reached, if you increase taxation you will get less revenue, because it will not be possible for the people to pay the higher rates of taxes and consequently your object of obtaining revenue will not be fulfilled thereby. Therefore, in their own interest, Government should drop this bill. They expected to get 20 lakhs more by means of these bills, but they have not been able to get that additional revenue and at the same time the revenue has remained stationary in spite of their having these bills passed by tactics which of course they are using every year. In the beginning they put down these bills on a permanent basis. Afterwards Government accept the proposal of continuing them for one

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year only, then every year they have gone on renewing it only for a year more each time and now they are trying to put it permanently on the statute book. In the statement of objects and reasons they say "Bills making the Act permanent were introduced in February 1926, in February 1927 and in February 1928, but each time the Legislative Council agreed to an extension of the Act by one year only." Last year the Honourable Sir Chunilal Mehta who was Finance Member at that time said that he was in the last year of his tenure of office as Finance Member and therefore if the House agreed not to trouble his successor, then he would agree to an extension of one year only. This is how Government are getting this Act renewed year after year. In the Assembly every tax has to come every year before the House for sanction. The same practice may with considerable advantage be followed here also, and no permanent tax of this kind should be put on the statute book. The Bombay Government of course want to act in an irresponsible manner and do not want the control of this House in the matter of raising money. With that object they want to have a permanent measure of taxation placed on the statute book. As I have pointed out, this additional taxation will not come from the rich but from the poorest of the poor. It is only when the poor agriculturists have no other way of meeting their debts or other expenses that they either mortgage or sell away their lands or other properties. In this way they have to go into the hands of Sowcars who, naturally, dictate their own terms to them. Whenever you tax people in a capitalist regime, the taxes are always paid by the poor people. You never find out methods of taxing the rich. The cultivators who suffer from such calamities as floods, frosts, insect pests and cattle diseases will be hard hit by this taxation. On that ground alone I do not want this bill to be passed into law and the Act extended permanently. How can a huge debt of crores be wiped off or relieved by a paltry sum of 20 lakhs. Let us therefore in the interests of Government and of the poor people throw out this bill if Government do not drop it on their own account. Let Government first effect economy in the right direction. Let them first touch the salaries of the Steel Frames and other European Services which cannot be touched under the Government of India Act. Let members of the Steel Frames and other European services say "Well, we live and earn our bread in this country for 30 to 40 years. We will be satisfied with lesser salaries so that whatever is saved may be turned to the assistance of the poor people of this country, although the Government of India Act gives us higher salaries. We shall", let them say "be satisfied to have a reduction of 25 per cent." If they do this, I am sure the provincial services also will follow suit without any difficulty. Let them find out some way of making the administration of the Bombay Presidency a workable proposition. If they have lost heavily on the Back Bay and other projects, let this Government ask the Government of India to write off the huge losses that have occurred and let Government impress upon the Imperial Government that unless the poor people are bled white it will not be possible for the Bombay Government to meet the large debts which they have to discharge.

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I see that when Government want to get more money by means of new bills, they come to this House for sanction, but I have never seen Government coming to this Council for sanctioning their schemes of increasing land revenue assessments. What did they do in the case of Bardoli? When we asked that the principles of revision of assessments should be brought before the Council and put into a statutory form, how did Government treat us? They are altogether irresponsible in the matter of land revenue assessment. The Government of India Act provides that the principles of revision settlement should be settled by this House in the form of a statute, but that statute which Government have framed themselves is being enforced without getting the sanction of this House; they are trying to enforce the rules that they have made in the form of that statute, and they want anyhow to get money from the people. But money is not a thing that would come out of earth. It depends on the capacity of the people to pay. If you go beyond a particular limit, you will not get more taxes, and in the case of land revenue also you are bleeding the people, and heaven is bleeding you. It is sending all these calamities because of the oppression that you are inflicting on the poor people. If you have a sympathetic heart for the poor people, then heavens will smile, and it will send good times. Therefore, in order to bring Government to their senses, it is necessary for this House to throw out this bill. In 1922, when the House threatened to throw out these two taxation bills that were brought before the Council at that time, Government effected retrenchment to the tune of Rs. 60 lakhs. Now, in order to bring Government to their senses, to compel them to proceed in the right way to effect economies and to make the administration workable, it is necessary that this House should, with one voice, throw out these measures of additional taxation unceremoniously and without faltering in the least.

Rao Sahab D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Sir, I oppose the bill. Government, for some years past, have adopted a procedure of bringing before this House these two bills, without doing their part of the duty. I may remind the Honourable the Finance Member that one of his predecessors, Sir George Curtis, when introducing the budget which contained increases of salaries all round, distinctly stated that, when easier times came the Government would be prepared to reduce the increases given in the various departments. Have Government ever tried it, or has any Member of the Government opposite ever conscientiously tried to carry it out? I say, no. On the contrary, they have simply idled away their time, and when the budget time came they had only one thing in mind, to get the budget anyhow through the Council. But such tactics may pay for a time, and perhaps they may be continued for some years, but such matters will not help either the country or the Government. As an example of wasteful expenditure, I might refer to Civil Works. What do we find there? There we maintain an establishment to the extent of about Rs. 36 lakhs. And for how much work? For Rs. 51 lakhs of current repairs, about Rs. 4 lakhs of original works and about Rs. 8 lakhs for works in progress.

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For all this an establishment of Rs. 36 lakhs is maintained. Why such a huge expenditure on establishments? What do we find in the same budget in another direction; I mean the amount of 16,42,000 rupees as grants-in-aid? This Council gives this money for expenditure on local development. But what do we find here? In 1927-28 the grants-in-aid amounted to Rs. 21 lakhs. It was then reduced to Rs. 19 lakhs, and now it has been further reduced to Rs. 16,50,000. Can you say that there is any reason for this side of the House to pass this money bill? I do not know whose fault it is, whether it is the fault of the Honourable Member in charge of Civil Works or whether it is the fault of the Honourable the Finance Member. But the fact is there, that they have flouted public opinion. Public opinion as expressed in this House compelled the then Minister to raise the amount from Rs. 11 lakhs to Rs. 21 lakhs, but now that amount is slowly being reduced.

Then, the Honourable the Finance Member has stated that they will have to curtail the expenditure on the nation-building departments also. I may state that, whenever the budget is presented, the educational budget is put down at Rs. 2,02,00,000. I have been observing that since the last 4 or 5 years, but when the time for spending comes, they spend it in the neighbourhood of Rs. 195 lakhs or at the most Rs. 197 lakhs. They practically cheat this House, and they do not carry out their promise. They give a promise that they will spend Rs. 2 crores on education, but when the final accounts are made we find to our regret that on education they spend only Rs. 196 lakhs. Why is that? Why is the Honourable Minister for Education parting with that money to the reserved side? Why is he so shy? Why is he not claiming his due? Why is he not asking the Honourable the Finance Member to hand over to him Rs. 2 crores, and why is he satisfied with only Rs. 197 lakhs?

The Honourable MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD: As has been explained yesterday by my honourable friend the Finance Member, these Rs. 2 lakhs have been reserved for increases in the pay of teachers. As that question has not yet been settled, the money goes on being unspent. It is not that it will not be spent. It will be spent; it is reserved for that.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: The explanation offered by the Honourable Minister for Education is that the money was reserved for increased salaries to teachers, but as that question is still not settled, the money is returned. There I cannot agree with him. After all, the Honourable the Education Minister does know that in all the districts there is such a demand for opening new schools, there is such a demand for filling in vacancies in the existing cadre of teachers, that this money would be very badly needed. When the question of increased pay to teachers comes to be settled, he might go to the Finance Department and ask for funds for that purpose also.

Now, I again revert to the Famine Fund. That fund was opened on such an inauspicious occasion that it could not remain long with Government and would not reach its maximum limit of Rs. 3,81,00,000. That

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fund of 63 lakhs has practically been taken away by the Government. I would therefore ask the Ministers, why do not the Minister of Education and the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister for Public Works claim a portion of the amount of 63 lakhs for themselves? Why did they allow their own budgets to remain at a lower level than when we entered this reformed Council? I do grant that the Honourable the Finance Member is the watch-dog on behalf of this House, but so far as the transferred side is concerned, they are responsible for the progress of this presidency; and when they find that the Honourable the Finance Member is not doing his legitimate duty by them, when they find that they are not being fairly treated, and when they find that such funds are being utilised elsewhere, then it is up to the Honourable Ministers themselves to fight it out in the Cabinet and to claim a share of the funds so diverted in other directions. My honourable friend from Ahmedabad has referred to the land revenue matters. I would just point out to what a pass this Government has been driven because of monetary stringency. They have been compelled to commit injustice, and irregularities in their revenue settlements and administration and when this settlement increases also come, these amounts are not spent for the benefit of the rural areas, but for other purposes. I should not like this to be diverted to purposes other than the progressive objects. I suggested to the Honourable Minister of Education—I am sorry he is not here—that under head, Medical, Government have treated the district local boards and local authorities in such a dirty fashion that the representatives of the rural boards cannot vote for any increase in taxation as it is proposed to-day. They are not given grants, if at all they are given very small grants. The grants are so small that my district board had to pass a resolution to close down all dispensaries and to open Ayurvedic dispensaries. The Collector thought that it was a threat but it is not. It is a warning to Government that unless you realise your own responsibility towards the public and the local authorities they will be compelled to adopt their own means. With these remarks I oppose the bill and I would request honourable members to throw it out. Then only Government will be compelled to effect retrenchment. Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government knows well that such a bill was introduced when he was a member of this Council. He was responsible also for the cut of Rs. 6,20,000. When Government promised a cut of Rs. 6,20,000 he agreed to the bill. Now, I say the same honourable members are there. I would request them to request Government to promise that they would initiate the policy of retrenchment. Unless any such promise comes forward I would say that this bill might be thrown out.

Mr. F. J. GINWALLA (Bombay City, North): Sir, I oppose this bill, particularly when it is proposed by Government that it is going to be permanently placed on the statute book. Last year at a very late hour it was proposed by Government that they wanted to have it for one year. This year they are trying to place this measure on the statute book permanently. So far as the representatives of the people are

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concerned, they will see to it that the bill is not permanently placed on the statute book. The only income they will derive from these two bills is 20 lakhs. Before Government can ask us to vote for more taxation it is the duty of Government to explain and satisfy the members of this House on this side that they have taken all possible steps and measures to effect retrenchment and economy. As I pointed out in my budget speech last time, Government were able to effect economy to the extent of 7 lakhs in contingent charges. If Government only appoint an officer like Mr. Sen again to go into the same question, I have not the slightest doubt that they will be able to effect retrenchment to the extent of another 7 lakhs. (An Honourable Member: Every year?) Why such a large amount for contingency? Mr. Shillidy was then appointed and he was able to effect retrenchment to the extent of 16 lakhs. Then Government were able to make a saving of another 30 lakhs. Altogether they saved a sum of 53 lakhs by retrenchment and economy. If the pruning knife is properly applied still, Government will be able to effect more retrenchment. I wish to show a sample of how the revenues of this presidency are used. I wish to draw the attention of the House to the expenses of the head of the presidency. In addition to the salary of Rs. 1,20,000, nearly 11 lakhs are spent on several allowances such as sumptuary allowance which comes to Rs. 3,80,000. The tour expenses come to Rs. 80,000. There is a provision of Rs. 3,20,000 for the Military Secretary's Department. I ask when the Governor has got a Private Secretary, where comes the need for a Military Secretary? Under this comes the expense for the maintenance of a body guard. Even the *Times of India* admitted last year that in these days when motor cars are used there is no need for a huge establishment of a body guard. Still Government think it necessary to maintain this huge establishment for prestige. The days for prestige are gone. Then there is an expense of Rs. 40,000 for band. In these days when there are the G. I. P. band and the B. B. & C.I. band, I do not know why the head of the presidency should indulge in such costly establishments as bands. It is better if the head of the presidency sets an example, and I have not the slightest doubt that the rank and file, the members of the civil service and others, will follow suit.

In the Public Accounts Committee, Sir Chunilal Mehta stated that they spend 90 lakhs on provincial service. If a 10 per cent. cut is made on their salaries, it will bring in 9 lakhs. Then it was proposed last year that Government should agree to a cut of 5 per cent. on the pay of clerks drawing salaries of Rs. 200 and above. Government are not prepared for it, because they are afraid that a time will come when the higher officers will be called upon to accept a cut. The only thing is that Government and their high officers are not prepared to accept retrenchment of their salary or emoluments; they want the happy family to continue and the poor people of the presidency to pay the increased taxes. During the discussion of the last budget, I pointed out that the cost of living having gone down there was no reason why the same scale

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of salaries should be maintained at least so far as the new persons entering the service are concerned. So far as the old servants are concerned, I do not propose that their scale of salary should be reduced, but for the new servants the scale of salary should be reduced. There are many other ways in which Government can effect economy if they want. The only thing is that they have no intention of doing it. Unless, therefore, they agree to appoint a retrenchment committee, consisting of some members of this House, this House will be thoroughly justified in asking Government not to come forward with proposals for further taxation. Government should lay their cards on the table, effect whatever retrenchment that is possible, and then tell us: "There is no room for further retrenchment, and therefore we now come to you for a further grant by way of supplementary demand." If they do that, then we can grant it. But looking to the depressed state of the finances of this presidency and looking to the further commitments we have in regard to the Sukkur Bufrage and the interest charges on our borrowings, it is the duty of this House to press Government to effect economy in all possible ways before they see their way to vote further money.

Mr. B. T. DESAI (Bombay City, South): Sir, I oppose this bill. As I have already indicated to the Honourable the Finance Member in the course of general discussion on the budget, we are not going to give any further taxation. This bill is surely in the nature of an extension of further taxation, and it is really a new tax. Looking to the history of it, I find that it was at first enacted for a period of four years in order to save Government from a difficult situation. After those four years, Government came to the conclusion that it was better to delude the Council by asking for extension only for one year. They tried it for three years and now they come forward with their experience of seven years and say that it should be permanently on the statute book.

So far as this taxation is concerned, one is inclined to think that the earlier it is put an end to the better, because it cannot be justified on any ground. They say that it brings additional revenue. I understand that both these money bills of Government will bring them an additional revenue of 20 lakhs. If they are in need of 20 lakhs, can they not curtail their expenditure to the extent of 20 lakhs? I say they can. Many of my honourable friends have pointed out various directions in which retrenchment can be effected without efficiency being injured in any way. That being so, when Government persistently and obstinately do not want to decrease expenditure, the only way for us is to throw out such bills and force their hands to cut their coat according to the cloth. Appeals have been made from year to year, but they have fallen on deaf ears, and therefore it is up to those who think that such a bill should not be on the statute book to rise against this and throw it out unceremoniously.

Another point that I notice in regard to this bill is, that when members are on the public side they do oppose such bills and when, owing to force of circumstances they go to the other side their mentality is absolutely

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changed. When they are on this side they say that it is a bill which affects the poor very much and that before it is passed the fat salaries of Government officials ought to be cut. But as soon as they are transferred to the other side they think differently, because it touches their pockets. They ought to be told : "If you are sincere, begin retrenchment at once by cutting down the fat salaries of Government officials, and effect retrenchment to the extent of the figure which these bills are estimated to bring."

So far as these bills are concerned, the question is one of raising more revenue ; there is no question of principle at all. In the first year of this Council, I was given to understand by the Honourable the Finance Member that he wanted an extension for two reasons. It was required for raising increased revenue and for showing an increased figure of income from this source to the Government of India. He said : We are going to have some sort of settlement with the Government of India. The central Government is taking away all the income-tax revenue from Bombay, and the total revenue raised in Bombay from that source is out of all proportion to the revenue from that source taken from other provinces. Therefore, Bombay, is the chief sufferer. Therefore, we are going to have some settlement with regard to income-tax. We are going to have an exchange of non-judicial stamp revenue for a share in the income-tax. And, therefore, if we show our income from non-judicial stamps as less, then we will get as our share of the income-tax proportionately less. In order to show a greater income and in order to get more out of the central Government it is necessary that the bill should be extended for a year. Well, of course, I did not pay much attention to those arguments at all because they did not deserve any consideration. But many of my colleagues were influenced by those arguments and one year's extension was given. In these circumstances, I say that these bills ought not to be given countenance to and they do not deserve our support at all.

Now, another ground, a very funny ground, urged is, as will be seen from the Statement of Objects and Reasons, that this will bring us into line with Madras, Bengal and the Punjab. Now, this is a stock argument that is always used when there is no substantial argument. If you want to bring us into line with other presidencies in regard to this matter, why do you not bring us into line with other presidencies in regard to other matters ? The other day, my honourable friend Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram stated that in the Punjab the Ministers insisted on having one-third of the revenue for transferred departments. Now, they say every province should be governed on the same lines, that the Government should be brought on the same lines. Why restrict your energies and operations to Acts only and the money bills only, and not to other things ? May I know what is the reason ? I think there is no reason. Whenever, as I say, there is nothing else to urge, this is all right, "to bring this province in a line with the other provinces" ! Well, with regard even to the incidence of taxation, why don't you bring

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Bombay in a line with other provinces? There, of course, we certainly touch the pockets of Government. Government will derive particular revenues; therefore, they will not bring in a line. Why should you attempt to bring in a line, because you want more revenue? Why do you not ask other Governments to bring themselves in a line with you? I do not understand that reasoning at all, unless you want it and, therefore, you put forward any argument you like. You do want particular Acts, and you want really to give an argument which has no substance at all. Therefore, looking to all the circumstances, I think it would be better that Government should be deprived of this revenue by throwing off these bills.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE (Ahmednagar District): Mr. President, I rise to strongly oppose this bill. Sir, the bill is a money bill which directly affects the agriculturists, because it is very well known that expenses which are decreed for the plaintiff always fall on the defendant, and they fall on the poor man.....

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: We are not dealing at present with the Court-fees Bill, but with the Stamp Bill.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE: Stamp Bill is the same. The agriculturists have to pay for the stamps; and so, this must be opposed. The maximum capacity to bear taxes by the poor agriculturist is over, and now it is really flogging a dead horse if we add to the burden of the ryots any more. Sir, when Government last got this bill passed, they promised this House that they wanted this bill only for one year and said that when the provincial contributions would be remitted to them, they would not find the necessity of having this bill any longer. But it seems to me Government have forgotten their promise, and they have brought this bill again before this House.....

An Honourable MEMBER: They are not honest.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE: Yes it seems so. We thought that Government would be honest and we relied on their promises. Though I was against the bill even then, any how they secured a majority last time and they could pass that bill. Now, what do we see? Though they got the remission of provincial contribution; though they are not going to lay by anything by way of insurance for famine, and though they are also getting Rs. 30 lakhs out of the Famine Insurance Fund,—a total of a crore and a half nearly, still they want us to put on the statute book permanently this money bill. I for myself see no reason why I should accept the proposal of Government. The Honourable the Finance Member has made out no case at all for the passing of this bill and I for myself, Sir, am strongly opposed to passing this bill.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, in opposing this bill I should inform the House that the Government has made no effort whatever in retrenching its expenditure. In 1921, when the new reforms were introduced, the Honourable the Leader of the House, Sir George Curtis, brought up a budget in which there was some deficit.

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But at that time there was a balance in hand of about Rs. 2 crores, and there was no difficulty, and the House was new. 1922 arrived, and when in 1922 these two bills were brought forward, it was discovered that Government had made no effort whatever to retrench its expenditure, and I think the honourable members of this House who were in the first reformed Council know that the non-official part of this House insisted on a cut of 5 per cent. on all expenditure all round. The Government agreed to give us a cut of Rs. 60 lakhs upon the expenditure. Of course, the Government tried to put the cut proportionately on all departments, and though the Education Department and the Health Department had to suffer, yet, Sir, the other departments, the spending departments, had a really substantial cut put on them. I must remind the Honourable the General Member that in 1922-23—he was then the Local Self-Government Minister—that his department, the civil works, was retrenched to a considerable extent, retrenchments that were well advised, and they had their effect on economy so far as that department was concerned. 1922-23 passed; other years came in. The expenditure fell, as is indicated by the list given on page 34 of the Blue Book. The Government was anxious to curtail and the Government made a serious effort to curtail expenditure. The proposals of the retrenchment committee that was appointed in 1921 made its recommendations to the Government. Rao Bahadur Kale and I were members of the retrenchment committee. Government considered some of the suggestions and refused to give effect to many of very reasonable suggestions for reduction in the civil works expenditure which the committee after considerable care and attention had actually proposed. They made suggestions for elimination of expenditure that need not have existed. The committee advised that overhead charges in the Public Works Department need not go beyond 20 per cent. They actually found from enquiries made from different sources that the expenditure need not exceed 15 to 17 per cent. in the Irrigation Department. In the Survey Department retrenchments were put into effect. But the officers and the establishments retrenched, all, Sir, came back into existence. In the budget of 1925-26 and after, we found the retrenched items in the spending departments restored. The Government refused in many cases to give effect to the retrenchment proposals made. They refused to adopt the retrenchment committee's proposals simply because officers concerned therein refused to advise Government to do so. I will give only one instance, Sir, and that was the abolition of the office of the Chief Engineer in Sind. The Chief Engineer, who was a witness before the retrenchment committee, was of opinion that the post was not necessary, that it was only a "post office." That post office was retained. Similarly, when the engineers in Sind and the Secretary to Government, P. W. D., advised, that some of the executive engineers' charges in Sind ought to be amalgamated and the number reduced, Government refused to give effect to it, in spite of the recorded opinion, in spite of the evidence of the heads of the departments and in spite of the findings and the recommendations of the retrenchment committee. This was in 1922. Subsequently the expenditure has gone

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on increasing. Now, last year, when the Honourable Sir Chunilal Mehta was in charge of finance, he held out a hope that next year (that is, this year) the question of the stamps and court-fees would be settled with the Government of India, and he asked this House to extend indulgence to him or to the Government to keep these Acts for one year, so that by next year (that is, this year) the whole thing may be settled.

The Honourable the Finance Member has said nothing to satisfy the House as to the settlement of this question with the Government of India or whether negotiations have come to a head or not, and yet we are asked to perpetuate this Act. How long are the negotiations to go on and how long are they to continue? He has of course placed before us a little bit of a temptation to the effect that the figure at the time of the completion of the negotiations will be the figure which will be taken into consideration. That bait no longer appeals to us on this side. He must know that we are no longer children to be caught into that net which he has spread before us. No serious effort appears to have been made by Government to try to do without this bill.

By a very simple mathematical calculation, you will find, Sir, that by the remission of the Meston Settlement (56 lakhs), by the release of 63 lakhs towards the Famine Insurance Fund and by the utilisation of 30 lakhs, out of the famine Reserve, a sum of 1,49 lakhs has been released for the current expenditure of this province. Would it not have been fit or fair if the Honourable the Finance Member had explained to us where that 150 lakhs has disappeared?.....

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: I did explain it yesterday but the honourable member was not here then.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: I have read the Honourable Member's speech. There is no explanation as to where the 150 lakhs have gone. We are told times out of number that the nation-building departments have benefitted. I find no benefit here. I find in the schedule that my friend the Honourable the Finance Member has given no indication of any improvement. The last year's figure is 2,04 lakhs for education. The budget shows 2,04, yet the revised estimate shows 1,95 lakhs. Turn over page 173 of the White Book. You will find Rs. 1,88,86,192 for 1927-28; for 1928-29 Rs. 1,90,93,000 (revised budget estimate) and for 1929-30 (Budget Estimate) Rs. 1,95,28,000. It will be clear from this that if the budget estimate is 2,04 lakhs, actual expenditure is 1,95,10,000. The revised budget estimate is 1,97,44,000. Though there was a grant of 2,04 last year, yet Government has not to spend more than 197 and that amount of 8 lakhs will have to go back into the balance for the new year. You say that the nation-building departments will suffer, as though they have not suffered enough. Has any attempt been made whatever to encourage primary education or to supplement secondary education? We have got it from the Honourable the Minister for Education himself that the Compulsory Primary Education Act is unworkable. He said that that Act would have to be reconsidered or in

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other words, scrapped by this House. It is better that that Act should be scrapped rather than that primary education should be starved or that other education should be starved. All the nation-building departments are starving, and the threat by the Honourable the Finance Member continues and he says that any reduction in these two bills will mean starvation for nation-building departments.....

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: I never said that.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Whatever that may be, the non-official side must insist that reduction must be made in expenditure. We do not want any more retrenchment committees. The Government has treated with absolute contempt, with absolute callousness, the report of their own Retrenchment Officer, and we do not want retrenchment officers whose recommendations are thrown to the winds. Let the non-official side at least insist on the curtailment of expenditure to a substantial extent. I do not blame Government if we, the representatives of the people, the representatives of the cultivators and of rural areas help Government to pass these bills into law. I want the Government to show us where the 1½ crores which has been saved by the remission of the Meston Settlement and by the Famine Grant, etc., has disappeared. It has no doubt gone into the general expenditure; 33 to 40 lakhs may have gone to Development Department, but what about the balance of 1,09 lakhs? Has anything gone to Education or any of the other nation-building Departments? I do not find it there. Sir, if you refer to page viii, Blue Book, you find there the chief items of revenue (ordinary) given. Let us take the Forest Department's revenue. It is as under:—

1921-22	75	} (all in lakhs of rupees).
1922-23	70	
1923-24	72	
1924-25	73	
1925-26	75	
1926-27	77	
1927-28	73	
1928-29	73	
1929-30	73	

In the first Council the then Minister for Forests (Sir Chunilal Mehta) took this House into his confidence and asked us to help him by granting him more whereby to enable him to increase the Revenue of the Forest Department, which he said could be made to yield far more than it was doing. He told the Council he was negotiating with railways to sell them timber which was available in his forests. He held out a hope that the Saw Doctor and the Forest Engineer introduced in the first Council budget were going to benefit the department. As long as Sir Chunilal was there, I know that every effort was made to carry on the negotiations I have mentioned above and in that manner to exploit our forests. In 1923 Sir Chunilal was transferred to the Executive Council and from that time to the present day, we find that

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the income has decreased from 75 lakhs to 73 lakhs and the expenditure has increased. In those circumstances the Honourable the Finance Member asks us to believe him when he says that Government has been doing its very best in order to increase the revenue from the Forests. Has any real effort been made in this really paying department? Has any effort been made in another paying department, namely, the Irrigation Department? Has any effort been made to improve agriculture and by that means to increase land revenue? We have had no indication whatever either from the Honourable Members in charge of the reserved departments or from the Honourable Ministers in charge of the transferred departments to show that any effort has been made for increasing our revenues. In 1921 the then Honourable the Minister for Excise distinctly told the House that Government were laying down a new policy for bringing about total prohibition within a certain period of time. This House twice passed a resolution laying down total abstinence as the goal to be reached and aimed at. What serious effort has been made towards this? Unless and until the House gets satisfaction on these points from Government, I think the House shall not sanction taxation without being told how far and to what extent the policy of temperance or abstinence has been pursued or advanced or how far the forests have been developed. I ask once again, has any serious effort been made to carry out the policy of total prohibition? That has not been done, and education which, during the days the Honourable Dr. Paranjpye was Minister, was receiving his best attention, is no longer receiving the same proportion of expenditure as it ought to. If the Head of the Government and the Honourable Minister in charge of Education are prepared to tell us that all further schemes for free and compulsory primary education will not be sanctioned next year, I think we may as well sit quiet and do nothing, instead of wasting these 14 days. The non-official side has the vote, has the power of refusing this money and compelling the Government to give an account of itself to the Council. It may be said that the nation-building departments will suffer. I say, let them suffer. It is better that they should suffer rather than that we should be treated to this kind of children's bait or temptation that has been thrown out to the honourable members.

(After Lunch.)

Sir VASANTRAO DARBHOLKAR: Sir, it is a matter of great surprise to me that there should be opposition to this bill, from the honourable members Mr. Nariman and Mr. Desai who are the elected members of the Bombay Municipal Corporation. I do not mind the opposition of the honourable members from the mofussil. Sir, the honourable member Mr. Ialji Naranji had said that on account of the way in which the finances of the Presidency are being managed, it is not justifiable to place a money bill of this character on the statute book. I do not understand how far that argument is going to help him, when the same honourable member is always after Government

[Sir Vasantao Dabholkar]

for the remission of revenues in such districts which have been affected either by floods or by frost. It is the desire of the honourable members of this House, and I quite agree with them, that in case of distress Government must show a sympathetic policy. If that policy is followed by Government, is it right on the part of honourable members like my honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji that they should oppose a taxation which is going to be utilised for the benefit of the nation-building departments? Sir, I am sorry that my honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji is not now present here. At the time of the general discussion on the budget he did not fail to pay a compliment to the Honourable the Finance Member by congratulating him on his showing to this House the real state of affairs as regards the financial position of this presidency. If the honourable member has congratulated the Honourable the Finance Member in the way that he has introduced the budget in this House, and when he has been able to show how the budget has been balanced, and if the same Finance Member wants this House to vote for these money bills which have been brought before this House, I do not understand why there should be an objection to it from Mr. Lalji. Sir, I am sorry that my honourable friend Mr. Nariman is not here, but I could not follow his reasoning as regards the opening of this auspicious new hall and the levy of further taxation on the presidency. If there is a necessity of levying taxation it does not matter whether we are in this Council Hall or in the old Town Hall. In support of this objection of his he quoted the words of my honourable friend the Finance Member in 1925, for which I do not congratulate the Finance Member because of the fact that he was on the opposite bench and in that atmosphere. But in the cooling climate of this hall, better counsel had prevailed on the Finance Member and he has brought this bill before the house. The honourable member Mr. Nariman said that the Honourable the Finance Member should put his words into execution by starting a reduction of the salaries of members on the Government benches. I want to know from the honourable member whether the cut in the salaries of those members will give us 20 lakhs. But, Sir, I want to know whether the honourable member Mr. Nariman has put the words of the Finance Member into execution which were expressed in 1925 by reducing his fees to his clients who are hit hard by this tax which is levied every year for the last five years and so given to them the benefit of his charitable views that people should not be taxed but the salaries of the Government Officers should be reduced.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Given free service absolutely.

Sir VASANTRAO DABHOLKAR : Not to my knowledge. Who opened the eyes of the Government for levying this tax? The Bombay Municipal Corporation approached the Government to increase the tax by two rupees and give half the revenue to the corporation because it gives local service to the City. This was brought before the Government by the people's representatives, viz., the first municipality in India. At that time there was not a single dissenting voice either from the honourable member Mr. Nariman or from the honourable member Mr. Desai.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : It is a misstatement.

Sir VASANTRAO DABHOLKAR : Because this revenue is to be obtained by Government, those honourable members want to hamper Government in their way of getting this revenue. We hear one thing in the corporation and another thing here. When the corporation came to know that they would not get it, they went even for the legal opinion and two of the eminent counsels who were consulted gave the opinion that the corporation has no claim to such a tax levied by Government. From this you will find that there was a desire on the part of the people's representatives including the honourable members Mr. Nariman and Mr. Desai to levy such a tax.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I never supported it even in the municipality.

Sir VASANTRAO DABHOLKAR : I strongly object to these interruptions, Sir. You are aware that when the Finance Member wanted to give information to this Honourable House my friend who interrupts me strongly objected to the interruptions of the Finance Member and now is it fair on his part to interrupt me ? However I would not like to be in his vicious company and would not mind his interruptions.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I strongly object to your misstatements.

Sir VASANTRAO DABHOLKAR : It was stated by my honourable friend Mr. Swaminarayan that the higher the taxation the lower will be the revenue. As a mathematician I expected from him a better conclusion. How higher taxation gives a lower revenue I cannot understand.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Diminished return.

Sir VASANTRAO DABHOLKAR : Then, the honourable member Mr. Desai said that if you follow the precedence of Madras and the Punjab and other provinces for levying this tax, why should we not give one-third of the revenue for the nation-building departments as these provinces do. My honourable friend must understand if a second presidency like Madras has got stamp duty tax on its own presidency, it is but fair that a first class presidency like Bombay whose requirements are very vast should have this taxation. Again it was stated that Government should effect retrenchment in order to save 20 lakhs ; but no one pointed out the direction in which Government should curtail its expenditure, except the old arguments of the Governor's body guard and band. Even by retrenching the expenditure on body guards and band, it is not going to give you 20 lakhs. As my honourable friend Mr. Desai referred to the Punjab and Madras, I should like to ask him whether the Punjab people have the same facilities for education as are given in Bombay, inspite of the one-third revenue they get for nation building departments.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Where are they ?

Sir VASANTRAO DABHOLKAR : Was it not a fact that in the first year of this reformed Council there was a cut of 50 lakhs and that cut of 50 lakhs was effected. Every year there has been some cut or the other though not to such an extent. I know for an instance that three years ago there was a big cut in the Police Department of the Bombay City to the extent of two lakhs. In the course of the general discussion on

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the budget, Rao Saheb Desai asked, when Government spends such a large amount on the Bombay Police Department, why they should have called in the assistance of the military for quelling the recent riots. The fact is that the Bombay Police is undermanned to the extent of 700 men in the lower ranks which fact was brought to the notice of the Bombay Government so back as 1916 and what do we find to-day, that sufficient money is not provided for in the Budget. If these are the cuts effected in the demands for grants of the department, it would be impossible for any Government to carry on its administration smoothly. If the corporation of Bombay wanted 10 lakhs as its share from the stamp revenue having an income of three crores and odd for managing this city, is not Government managing the whole presidency, justified in asking for 20 lakhs of revenue from stamp duty for which this bill is brought.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I rise to give a personal explanation at the earliest opportunity. I emphatically contradict the misstatement, that I have ever supported that this tax should be levied even by the corporation.

Mr. RAJMAL LAKHICHAND (East Khandesh District) (Addressed the House in Hindi) : Sir, I rise to oppose the bill. This tax when it was passed last year for one year, that even was too much for the public. It is rather curious that the stamp fees increase and decrease in the inverse ratio over Rs. 200. All things taken together, I request that honourable members to reject this bill.

Mr. G. WILES: Sir, we have heard a lot about the budget, but very little about the bill which is before the House. (Mr. B. G. Pahalajani : This is a money bill). The main argument that has reached me is this : Government have misspent the money which has been given them in the past ; therefore, do not let us give it to them in the future. The House is well aware,—it is all stated in the Budget,—on what services we are proposing to spend the revenues of next year. Therefore, where is the argument ? We want this money not for ourselves, but for certain services which are detailed in the budget. If you do not want any of those services, you are at liberty to cut out any of them. We are proposing this bill because we cannot make our budget balance without the money which we anticipate from it.

Let me make a few remarks on some of the other arguments that have been used. We have my honourable friend from Bombay South (Mr. Nariman) who has accused the Finance Department and me in particular of perverse mentality. We heard the same old story of the tall poppies which requires cutting down. My honourable friend Mr. Nariman is a clever man. He pipes,—and the young men and the maidens from all over the presidency come following and trooping behind him,—I am not sure about the maidens, but certainly the young men. But my honourable friend must be also a busy man as well as a clever man. He has not had time to study the budget.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I have not ; it is waste of time.

Mr. G. WILES : At any rate, we have not heard one argument about the budget or this bill from the honourable member Mr. Nariman. We have the same old talk which we have listened to at the street corners, as I said, about tall poppies, and various other proposals which he must know are perfectly impracticable. He said—I would like to correct the statement if anybody has noticed it—that in 1922-23 the transferred departments were given 6 crores and that has been reduced to the present figures which is something over 5 crores. I can find no ground for that statement : I believe it to be wrong. He has told us—it is impossible for the honourable member Mr. Nariman to speak in anything but superlatives—he has told us that there is no country in the world—if I am misquoting, perhaps he will correct me—there is no country in the world where taxation is so high as in Bombay and no country in the world where amenities are so few.

An Honourable MEMBER : He meant India.

Mr. G. WILES : If he did not mean Bombay and meant India, he is equally incorrect.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Nowhere is taxation so high as in India : that is my statement.

Mr. G. WILES : The statement is absolutely ridiculous, whether he meant India or Bombay. India is the lowest taxed country in the world ; though Bombay is the highest taxed province in India, as we all know.

Mr. NARIMAN : I meant in proportion to income.

Mr. G. WILES : As we all know perfectly well. I am not going into any details of *per capita* statistics. As I stated the other day, *per capita* statistics are the most dangerous things in the world and it would require a volume to explain them ; it will be improper for me to try to draw any argument from them in a short speech.

Let me come to my honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji. I am sorry he is not here to listen to my comments on his remarks. The House will know, the honourable member Mr. Lalji Naranji knows it himself, that this complicated document is not deliberately made complicated in order that none of us can understand it. I do not believe that that argument appeals to a single man in this House. You cannot have the accounts of a presidency, revenue and expenditure of 15 crores, without making the accounts complicated. They must be complicated. With what stretch of imagination can you put all these figures on one page of foolscap ? But we have drawn conclusions, which we have tried to put for the benefit of this honourable House in as simplified a way as we can. I have been the last six years of my life trying to make these things understandable to this honourable House, and I have failed—so I am told.

The honourable member Mr. Lalji Naranji told us that the real deficit this year is about a crore and a half—I think that is his figure. And how has he arrived at that figure ? By adding to the wrong side the whole of our capital expenditure. Is that a reasonable procedure ? What commercial firm in estimating its profits deducts from them the whole

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of its borrowings which may be repaid over a series of years? Since this point has been reiterated again and again by my honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji, I am going to take this opportunity of putting before the honourable House some figures. The total outstanding debt, as the Honourable the Finance Member has told you, is 43 crores. With my perverse mentality I do not think that is an excessive sum for a great province. But I will go on to explain that the charges from this debt are not so great as they would otherwise be for certain reasons. It is not wholly an unproductive debt—this 43 crores. The estimated borrowings during the current year amount to a little over 4 crores; the estimated borrowings next year are about the same figure. We shall have repaid during the current year and next year a sum of 280 lakhs if all goes well. The net outstanding debt at the end of 1929-30 will be, as we anticipate, 42,80 lakhs. On that sum, as the honourable member Mr. Lalji Naranji perfectly correctly estimated, the interest amounts to Rs. 204 lakhs. He has omitted to add another charge, that of the sinking fund on this debt, which amounts to very nearly Rs. 44 lakhs. The figure which was given by the Honourable the Finance Member in his budget speech was Rs. 248 lakhs as being the gross charge on the debt of this presidency. Now, against that gross debt, we have to put the direct receipts which accrue to this presidency from that expenditure. We are getting a direct revenue, from the expenditure of this capital, of Rs. 73 lakhs per annum, so that the net charge on our outstanding debt at the end of next year will be, as we anticipate, Rs. 175 lakhs. Out of this we have put in the budget a little over Rs. 111 lakhs. That is there already, to be met from current revenue, and the balance, namely, Rs. 64 lakhs is at present being met, or is anticipated to be met, from capital receipts. Now that last named amount applies only to two projects, some of the Development projects which are still left outstanding and the Sukkur Barrage. I shall be told that this is not enough, we want to know how far the works which you are going to undertake are going to carry us in future. What capital expenditure will be incurred in the future, I am not in a position to say. That depends upon this honourable House. But if we finish the works which we have undertaken on development and on the Sukkur Barrage, we shall have an outstanding debt considerably increased by the year 1935. I regret to say I have mislaid the exact figures; as far as I can carry them in my head, I will give them to the House. It will be necessary to convert the Development loan, for instance, in the year 1935. We shall have to borrow from the Government of India in order to repay that to the public. The total charges on that debt will be about Rs. 15 lakhs per annum. The increased charges on the remaining sum, which will be borrowed between this year or rather between the end of the next year and 1935, will amount, to—shall I say that the total figure which will be required in addition to the amounts we are already providing in next year's budget for sinking fund and interest on the total Development loan will be—Rs. 22 lakhs. That is the sum which we hope will be required. I want to be quite frank; I am not taking

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into consideration any further change in the Back Bay Scheme. Our friend from Bombay has told us that the loss of Rs. 3 crores, which was estimated, may be increased. I am taking no account of that. But, things being as they are, we shall want in 1935 another Rs. 22 lakhs. My honourable friends from Bombay will be able to tell us whether after another five years we shall be able to get Rs. 22 lakhs from sales of land or not. That is for them to say. We shall want from the same year a sum of about Rs. 110 lakhs per annum to repay the whole of the debt on the Sukkur Barrage. I am not going to dilate on that. I will only say that in the project as it was put up originally, the estimated receipts in the year 1935 were put at about Rs. 120 lakhs, and, so far as the estimates have been revised up to date, I am told that they will come up to expectation.

One other point has been made by several speakers. My honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji was one. He pointed out that there is a very considerable charge in the Public Works Department for establishments. Now, to argue from the percentage charges is somewhat misleading. Percentage charges must, very obviously, vary with the amount of work you are undertaking. If you undertake a great deal of work; your percentage charges on establishments will go down, assuming that your establishments remain the same. You have to remember that the establishment charge of 24 per cent. is calculated for the whole presidency. Where you have your establishments concentrated, where your project is concentrated, the establishment charges come down very greatly. My honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji may be aware himself that even in the Development Department establishment charges are some 8 or 8½ per cent. The conditions are entirely different where you have a great body of men spread over the whole of the presidency, whose duty is not only to build or carry out works, but to maintain them.

Our honourable friend from Ahmedabad (Mr. Swaminarayan) has told us that the reason why we have not got money from this tax in the past is that the law of diminishing returns was coming into operation. The law of diminishing returns is a very valuable law, which none of us can repeal, however much we may like to do so;—(Mr. B. G. Pahalajani: But it can be disregarded)—I do not think it applies in this particular instance. The receipts from stamps were going steadily down when first this bill was imposed. They have remained, since it came in, more or less steady. The conclusion obviously is that if you had not imposed this taxation, the decline would have been much steeper than it actually is. The law of diminishing returns does not necessarily apply at all.

He has told us that he opposes this bill because it hits the poorest of the poor,—the poor cultivator. He is wrong again. Possibly his notion of what the poorest of the poor means differs from mine, but those who have studied the bill will notice that agricultural leases for one year or for an annual rent of Rs. 100 are exempt, that mortgages with possession under Rs. 200, and mortgages without possession

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of Rs. 200 are also untouched by the bill. Similarly, other documents under Rs. 200 which affect agriculture remain as they are. But apart from that, the honourable House will remember that a previous Finance Member told us that revenue from stamps is for a very great part an urban revenue, that 50 per cent. comes out of Bombay city, that 20 to 25 per cent. comes out of the other great cities and that the balance only comes out of the rural tracts.

The honourable member Mr. Ginwalla has rightly credited us with a vast effort to retrench. For the first time I whole heartedly agree with him. He points out that in the last few years we have retrenched to the extent of 53 lakhs. It is perfectly true. My honourable friend from Sukkur, however, says we have made no effort at all. The honourable member Mr. Ginwalla knows better, but he goes a little off the rails when he suggests that we can go on doing it every year. Will any honourable member of this House consider it a reasonable argument that because you have retrenched and retrenched and retrenched and have thus acquired 53 lakhs saving, therefore you can go on doing it again? It is not a reasonable argument. You can go on polishing a piece of brass until it sparkles but if you go on polishing it, it may disappear altogether. You can go on pruning your tree, and kill the branches of it.

I have already referred to the remarks made by my honourable friend from Sukkur in regard to retrenchment. He has told us that we ought to get more revenue from our forests and yet he wants to cut down the only way in which we can increase our revenue, *viz.*, by putting expenditure into it.

Rao Saheb D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Sir, I am not in the least surprised at the surprise expressed by my honourable friend from Bombay (Sir Vasant Rao Dabholkar) for the strong opposition shown by the non-official members against the bill under consideration when I knew his usual attitude. It is true that the state of the budget is not satisfactory and we must see anyhow that the administration must be carried on. But the point is whether the Honourable the Finance Member is willing to put confidence in the non-official members and allow them a free discussion with the Government by the appointment of a committee to discuss the matter to find out whether it is possible to have any retrenchment and economy. When I referred to this point in my budget speech, I do not know why the Finance Member was not pleased to refer to it and just tell the non-official members as to the attitude of Government in the matter of the appointment of a committee. If Government want non-official members to shoulder any taxation, at least Government must be ready to place their cards on the table and satisfy non-officials that Government have done their best to effect retrenchment and are practising every possible economy. Unless and until that is done, the Honourable the Finance Member will not be justified in asking the honourable members of this House to consent to any sort of taxation. It is quite fair to ask the Honourable the Finance Member to place his view before the non-official members in respect to my

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suggestion about the appointment of a committee to enquire into the possible remedies in the matter of retrenchment and economy.

Every year when a budget is presented by any Finance Member, it is always argued that Government tried their best to effect every possible retrenchment and economy. Last year also the same sort of argument was put forth by the predecessor of the present Finance Member, and this year we find that same retrenchment has been effected to the extent of six lakhs. Of course, as we know a budget is nothing but a jugglery. The honourable member the Finance Secretary has rightly said that the budget is a complicated matter and it must be admitted fairly that many of the non-officials do not fully understand all the complicated figures and therefore cannot go beyond passing certain vague remarks. There I entirely agree with the view expressed by the honourable member the Finance Secretary. Let Government appoint a committee and discuss all questions of retrenchments and economy with the non-officials and if Government satisfy the representatives of the people that they cannot do without additional taxation, then the non-official members will be quite prepared to accept the suggestions of Government in the matter of taxation.

I notice, Sir, that this money bill has been extended by one year thrice. I have already said in my budget speech that the question of the Meston Settlement is to be decided yet. That being so, and that is a very important question indeed, how is it that the Honourable the Finance Member has been pleased to put this money bill before us for the purpose of placing it permanently on the statute book? I do not understand his reasons at all for being in such a hurry. When we place before Government certain grievances of the people, at times no reply is given and if any reply is at all given, it is most unsatisfactory. I will quote an instance. I just stated in my budget speech that in my district of East Khandesh certain places have been affected by hail-storms and that certain redress is called for urgently. I appealed to Government to consider strongly this matter but the Honourable the Finance Member did not speak a single word about that.....

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : As the Honourable the Revenue Member did say something about it and as he said he was going to make a full statement after taking into consideration all the places where frosts had done damage, I did not say anything about it myself.

Rao Sahab D. R. PATIL : I did not refer to frosts because frosts affect only Gujarat. I was talking of hail-storms. When I appealed to the Honourable the Finance Member, he did not speak a word about it. Of course, I must thank the Honourable the Revenue Member who was kind enough to talk to me outside and who said that if I placed the matter before the Commissioner, Central Division, he would look into it. For that I am really thankful to him. Of course, I think that the Honourable the Finance Member, though he is on the opposite benches, ought to have had the courtesy to refer to my grievance at least in some way, just to satisfy me that the Government are going to take that grievance into consideration. Really we are tired and tired of taxations because

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we find there are court fees, there are stamp fees, there are process fees, there are grazing fees, and there are so many other fees. I said in my budget speech, that the Forest Committee were unanimous in their conclusions and requested Government to reduce the grazing fees from 4 annas to 2 annas, but that request was not granted by Government. Government want more taxes; they do not want to show the least concession to the poor ryots. It is very unfair on the part of Government to do so. I say, improve the condition of the people first, and then make them pay more taxes, and then if people refuse to pay taxes, they may be blamed for it. But the Government do not do anything about the concessions to be given to the people, and yet they introduce heavy bills to put more and more burdens on the shoulders of the ryots. I have already referred to the hail-storms that have caused damage to the crops in East Khandesh. If Government give us some assurance, we can at least tell the people "Well, Government are going to make enquiries and justice will be done to you." When we get that sort of assurance, we can tell the people that Government are doing their best for the poor people. I say, if you want fairness, be fair to the people; do not expect fairness without being fair to the people.

Without taking much of the time of the House, I would say in brief that the Honourable the Finance Member should always try his best to do justice to the people, and I want a reply from him definitely on one point and it is this. Is he willing to appoint a committee of non-officials and officials to go thoroughly into the question of retrenchment and economy? If he says that he is willing to do that, then of course, this time we may be ready to help him; but he must give this undertaking that he is going, very shortly or immediately, to appoint a committee of officials and non-officials to consider the question of retrenchment, and if the non-officials are satisfied that Government are willing to do their best, to effect retrenchment and economy then of course it will be the bounden duty of non-officials to support Government so far as this year goes, but not permanently, with regard to this taxation. Of course, if the Honourable the Finance Member satisfies us every year about the necessity for this taxation, then we shall have to follow the same course, but let him be fair to us.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: I move the closure.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I accept the closure.

I would request honourable members, when they talk to each other, to do so in a low voice, because, otherwise an echo is produced which disturbs the House.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Mr. President, the grievance of some of the honourable members who criticised this bill is that Government have not shown a sympathetic attitude in regard to certain matters, and therefore they are not prepared to sanction any extra revenue. I do not understand the remarks of the honourable member who spoke last (Rao Saheb Patil) about the hail-storm in East Khandesh. That

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is a question for the Honourable the Revenue Member to decide. He did speak about the frost, and the honourable member himself admits that he (the Revenue Member) did speak to him about the hail-storms. It is not a question for the Finance Department to decide; it is for the Honourable the Revenue Member to decide it, and if he has given an assurance, I do not know what better assurance the honourable member wants; my assurance in that respect will not help him, because that is not my department.

The second point which he tried to make out was that there should be a committee of officials and non-officials appointed to suggest retrenchment. I have not the least objection to appoint such a committee. That was the suggestion made by my honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji also this morning, and I shall consider over that question. I think there was such a committee appointed in 1922, and the report of that committee is before us. Government themselves appointed officers twice, once to consider retrenchment and once to consider the question of contingent allowances.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Have Government followed the recommendations of the retrenchment committee.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: My honourable friend knows that some of the recommendations of that committee were carried out.

An Honourable MEMBER: Some!

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Some of the recommendations which were made by Mr. Sen were also carried out.

An Honourable MEMBER: Very few.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: As a matter of fact, the House itself admits that retrenchment to the tune of Rs. 53 lakhs has been carried out. Now, I am quite willing to have a committee of officials and non-officials to look into the whole expenditure and to suggest ways and means of retrenchment, but Government have also got to consider whether the retrenchments which will be suggested are feasible or not.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE: May I know whether the recommendations of the committee will be binding upon Government?

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Government can never give an assurance that every suggestion made by such a retrenchment committee will be accepted. If Government gives such an assurance, then perhaps Government will not be able to run the administration. However, every possible consideration will be given to those suggestions, and such of them as it is possible to carry out will be carried out, because Government also are not willing to waste money. If there is any way possible by which retrenchment can be effected, they are ready and willing to do it, because we ourselves find that we are in difficulties as regards finances, and we ourselves want that if there is any retrenchment possible that retrenchment ought to be carried out. Otherwise, I should not have placed the whole position so frankly before the House. I have

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

stated to the House what our condition is, how much losses we have to pay off, and I wanted honourable members to suggest to me ways and means by which retrenchment could be effected. If honourable members on the opposite benches are anxious that there should be a committee and that committee should consider the whole thing and propose any ways and means by which retrenchment could be effected, I am quite ready and willing to do it.

Then I find that there is an amendment sent in by the honourable member Mr. Bole, which can only be taken into consideration at the second reading.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I have not seen any amendment.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I rise to a point of order. Can the Honourable Member refer to an amendment which is not before the House ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable Member cannot refer to it. I have not seen the amendment, and this is not the stage for any amendment.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : If the first reading of the bill is carried, at the second reading I am prepared to accept an amendment to extend the life of this bill for one year only. That is an assurance which I can give to this House. (Interruption.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order. Honourable members should allow the honourable member to proceed.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : What I am going to say to the House is that if the first reading of the bill is carried, I shall be prepared to accept the suggestion that this bill should be extended for a period of one year only. That is the assurance which I can give.

Question put. House divided. Ayes ; 48 : Noes 41. Motion carried.

Division No. 1.

Ayes

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Khan Sahab
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
AHMAD, the Honourable MOULVI RAFTUDDIN
ALLAHBAKHSH, Khan Sahab
AMBEDKAR, Dr. B. R.
ASAVALE, Mr. R. S.
BALAK RAM, Mr.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
BRANDER, Mr. J. P.
BROWNE, Mr. D. R. H.
DABHOLKAR, Sir VASANTRAO
DESAI, the Honourable Dewan Bahadur HARILAL D.
DOW, Mr. H.
ERIKK, Mr. C. G.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM NABI SHAH, Khan Bahadur
HARTON, The Honourable Mr. J. E. B.

ISRAH, Khan Sahab GHULAM MUHAMMAD
ABDULLAH KHAN
JADEAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JAN MAHOMED KHAN, Khan Bahadur
JANVEKAR, Mr. D. A.
JITEKAR, Mr. HAJI ISRAHIM HAJI MAHOMED
JONES, Major W. ELLIS
JOSHI, Mr. S. C.
KHURRO, Mr. M. S.
KNIGHT, Mr. H. F.
LAGHARI, Khan Sahab RAIS FAZAL MUHAMMAD
LAIRD-MACGREGOR, Mr. E. G.
MAGIE, Mr. A. W. W.
MACLACHLAN, Mr. D.
MANSURI, Khan Sahab A. M.
MARTIN, Mr. J. R.
MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
OLIVEIRA, Mr. F.
OWEN, Mr. A. G.

PETCH, Mr. F. W.
 PRADHAN, the Honourable Mr. G. B.
 RIEU, the Honourable Mr. J. L.
 SMART, Mr. W. W.
 SMYTH, Mr. J. W.
 SOLANKI, Dr. PURUSHOTTAMRAI G.

SYED, MUNAWAR, Mr.
 THORNER, Mr. J. P.
 TURNER, Mr. O. W. A.
 WASIF, Mr. G. A. D.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WINTERBOTHAM, Mr. G. L.

Tellers for the Ayes : Mr. C. G. FREKE AND SIR VASANTRAO DABHOLKAR.

Foot-note.—For “ Ghulam Nabi Shah, Khan Bahadur ” read “ Ghulam Hussain, the Honourable Sir ”. *Vide* Debates of the 27th February 1929.

Noes

AMIN, Mr. H. J.
 BHOSLE, Mr. M. G.
 CHANDRACHUD, Mr. N. B.
 DAWOODKHAN SHALESBOY, Mr.
 DESAI, Mr. B. T.
 DESAI, Rao Sahob D. P.
 DESAI, Mr. J. B.
 DESHMUNDR, Mr. L. M.
 DINT, Dr. M. K.
 GILDER, Dr. M. D.
 GINWALLA, Mr. F. J.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 HAJI MIR MAHOMED BALUCH, Mr.
 JATRAMDAS DOULATRAM, Mr.
 JOS, Mr. V. N.
 KALE, Rao Bahadur R. R.
 KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSSEINBOY ABDULLA-
 BOY.
 LAJJI NARANJI, Mr.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.

MUNSHI, Mr. K. M.
 NAIK, Rao Bahadur B. R.
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NATHMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. J. R.
 PATIL, Rao Sahob D. R.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSSEINALLY M.
 RAJMAL LAKHICHAND, Mr.
 SAKARLAL BABABHAI, Mr.
 SHAIKH ABDUL AZIZ ABDUL LATIF, Mr.
 SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
 SHROFF, Mr. C. R.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 SYED MIRAN MUHAMMAD SHAH
 SYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
 VANDEKAR, Rao Sahob R. V.

Tellers for the Noes : RAO SAHEB D. R. PATIL AND Mr. N. E. NAVLE.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. I want honourable members specially to note that no smoking or canvassing will be allowed in the House, as they have now got sufficient facilities afforded in this hall outside the chamber.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Mr. President, I beg to move
 Second reading. that the Bill be read a second time.

Bill read a second time. Question put and carried.

Bill read clause by clause.

Clause 1 (Short title) ordered to stand part of the bill.

Clause 2 (Commencement) ordered to stand part of the bill.

Clause 3 (Amendment of section 1 of Bom. II of 1922).

In clause (iii) of section 1 of the Indian Stamp (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1922, the “ and shall be in force for seven years thereafter ” shall be repealed.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Sir, I beg to move the following amendment:

For clause 3, substitute the following clause:

“ In clause (iii) of section 1 of the Indian Stamp (Bombay Amendment) Act of 1922 for the word ‘ seven ’ the word ‘ eight ’ shall be substituted.

Question proposed

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Sir, I accept that amendment.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The amendment is accepted. That makes the Act applicable for one year more.

Question put and carried.

Clause 3 as amended ordered to stand part of the bill.

The preamble ordered to stand part of the bill.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Mr. President, I beg to move that the bill be read a third time and passed.

Question proposed.

Clause 1.

This Act may be called the Indian Stamp (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1929

Mr. BALAK RAM : Sir, I beg to move a verbal amendment :

In clause 1, add the figure " 9 " after the figure " 2 ".

Question put and carried.

Bill read a third time. Question put and carried.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The bill is read a third time and passed into law.

BILL No. I OF 1929, A BILL TO AMEND THE COURT-FEES (BOMBAY AMENDMENT) ACT, 1926.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Sir, I introduce Bill* No. I of 1929, a Bill to amend the Court-fees (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1926.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The bill is introduced.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Sir, I beg to move that Bill
First reading. No. I of 1929, a Bill to amend the Court-fees (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1926, be read the first time. Now, this bill has been in force for the last two or three years. At the time this Act was first amended, certain drastic changes were made in the original draft. I myself and my honourable friend Mr. Pahalajani were members of the select committee. Now, the amendments that were made were made with a view to providing that the court-fees should not be enhanced in the case of suits in which small amounts were involved. Several documents, where it was found in minor suits they would be filed, were also left alone, and only the old fees were made applicable in their case. The main change was in regard to suits the amounts involved in which were Rs. 5,000 and more. Further the probate duties were so revised that the enhanced duties would fall upon broad shoulders ; whenever the property is above a certain amount, then only the enhanced stamp duty comes into operation. So, at any rate, the complaint that has been made in regard to the Stamp Act that often times it would fall upon poor people, cannot apply to the Court-fees Act. The select committee on the first Court-fees Bill took care to see that no changes were allowed in the Bill which would affect the poor agriculturists adversely.

These fees were fixed as far back as 1876. Now, so many years have rolled by and the price of landed property is now five times the assessment.

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No one in this House will contend that five times the assessment of land represents the market value of the property. So, those changes which have been made were changes which were overdue. These changes have been introduced and there has been no complaint that they have affected the poor people in any way. So, I submit that in the case of this bill at any rate the Council will allow it to be put on the statute book permanently.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Not permanently.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: All right; as you please. That will be considered later. As I said, the changes have been of such a nature as not to put any extra burden on the poor people. Therefore, I hope this honourable House will allow this bill to pass through.

Question proposed.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE: Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member said that at the second time in the Council the bill was amended in select committee in several parts. I may remind the honourable member that in the year 1922, when the question of amending the Court-fees Act came up for the first time for discussion, I had pleaded that there were certain inequalities in the assessment of court-fees as between the mofussil and the presidency town. What I meant was that in the mofussil a suitor wherever he had to present a complaint had to pay a certain amount by way of institution fees up to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., whereas on the Original Side of the High Court there are no institution fees levied whatever. On the Appellate Side of the High Court, where appeals from the mofussil courts come up, the mofussil clients have also to pay the usual court-fee. I was told that on the Original Side of the High Court the fees are levied in other ways, that is to say, when a case is brought up in court, that case may be disposed of at the very first hearing, and in that case the fee will be very small; but when a case is prolonged, then in that case the court-fees that have to be paid from time to time by way of application or affidavits come to a very large figure, and therefore, there is no inequality between the fees as charged in the High Court and as charged in the mofussil courts. I may point out, Sir, that if a similar arrangement were made for mofussil courts, that is to say, where there is a large claim, say, Rs. 5,000, Rs. 10,000, on a promissory note and the claim is disposed of at the very first hearing, there is no contest whatever, except perhaps claiming instalments or some such thing, in that case, all the same, the party has to pay the full amount of the court-fee, whatever it is. There is no distinction observed in the mofussil courts between cases which are disposed of at the first or other short hearings and cases which are prolonged for a longer period. I can understand, if the work which the court has to do extends over a large period, the litigant ought to pay proportionately to the time spent by the court. But the same privilege ought to be available to the mofussil, namely, that if a case, although the claim may be worth anything, still if it is disposed of at the first hearing, then the party ought not to be made to pay a penalty, as it were, of having to pay the full court-fee stamp. I submit, Sir, that the matter was discussed in

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1922, and the Honourable Member in charge of the bill, Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, promised that the matter would be looked into. He said that it was not free from difficulties, that Government would have to consult the several courts, the High Court, and other associations, and after obtaining their opinions he would consider the matter. I had given an amendment in that respect, but on the assurance and undertaking given, that amendment was not pressed, but was withdrawn. It was also stated that a city court for Bombay was in contemplation to be established, so that cases which now go to the High Court on the Original Side would be tried by the city court, and then in the Court-fees Act provisions similar to those which obtain in the mofussil courts would be incorporated. I certainly thought that the suggestion was very practicable, and that would also have gone to reduce the cost of the litigant in the High Court. As at present the litigant in the High Court has to incur a large amount of fees for stamps and charges for solicitors and in other ways. But if pleaders in the High Court were allowed to practice on the Original Side of the High Court, then there would be no need for the litigants to have the cumbersome machinery of solicitors to go through, but they can, as in the mofussil, institute their suits directly through pleaders and in that way the heavy charges of solicitors would be saved. Further on, the time of the High Court, which is very expensive because the High Court Judges are naturally highly paid officers of Government, would be saved and the time that is taken up in trying original cases would also be saved, cases which are similar, I submit, to cases which occur in the mofussil and which are tried by first class subordinate judges. In the mofussil there are two classes of subordinate judges,—the second class subordinate judges whose jurisdiction extends to trying cases up to Rs. 5,000. If the claim exceeds that amount, the case goes to the first class subordinate judge. Even the claim may be a lakh of rupees or anything of that kind; he is competent to try a case of that kind. Why should not in the presidency town a city court with a subordinate judge of the first class or some similar rank be in a position to try cases of that kind? Why should the valuable time of the High Court be wasted in trying cases of that nature? Therefore, the proposal for the establishment of a city court in the city of Bombay was also welcomed by me.....

The Honourable Mr. J. E. B. HOTSON: I did not quite catch what particular class of cases the honourable member is referring to, which he wishes this court to take cognisance of.

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE: At present the Small Causes Court disposes of cases relating to movable properties. But the City Court should be in a position to try cases of immovable properties also, which now have to be tried by the High Court. In the mofussil, all cases relating to immovable property, whatever the value may be, are tried by the first class subordinate judge's court, which is situated at the headquarters of the district. Generally we have one first class subordinate judge, and if the work is heavy, we get an additional first class subordinate

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judge, and they try all these cases relating to immoveable property. Similarly, the suggestion was that a city court should be established in the city of Bombay, which should be engaged in trying cases of that kind. That would have resulted in economy both from the point of view of Government and the people, because now, for instance, we shall have to discuss the Judicial Department, when more Judges are attempted to be appointed, there is congestion of work, I admit, and if there is congestion of work, certainly the number of Judges should be increased, together with their establishments. All that would have been saved. It would not have been necessary to increase the present number of the High Court Judges, if almost all the Original Side work which is now carried on in the High Court at great expense was transferred to be tried by a city court.....

• The Honourable MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: A city court like that in Madras?

Rao Bahadur R. R. KALE: I am not aware. It may be something like that. I am not aware of the exact provisions of the City Court of Madras. But it was stated that that would be done and it was also in contemplation, and it was stated that when that would come, the Court-fees Act would govern equally the mofussil courts as well as the courts situated in the city of Bombay. My submission was that you are at present getting a certain amount of court-fees, and the Court-fees Act is amended with all the changes in the second period of the Council; all the same the litigants have to pay the higher fees, whereas if there is similar court-fee for the institution of suits which will be tried in a city court, then there will be no need to enhance the court-fees that are levied at present.

There will be an equalisation. There should be no distinction between litigants in the mofussil and litigants residing in the city of Bombay. Though there may be criminal or sessions cases or appeals coming from the city, yet just as appeals come from the mofussil to the High Court and the second appeal or the first appeal in the cases exceeding Rs. 5,000 even from the mofussil at present go to the High Court, so also appeals in cases exceeding Rs. 5,000 may go to the High Court. The highest court in the land should be the supreme court of appeal so far as all original civil cases are concerned. So far as criminal cases are concerned, the machinery of the Presidency Magistrates and the Original Side of the High Court may remain because there is jury and perhaps it may be worth while to consider whether jury with a sessions judge is not feasible for the city of Bombay, because there are cases and cases. I mean in criminal matters, there may be important cases which may be tried on the original side of the High Court in criminal jurisdiction, but there are other cases which are exclusively triable by a court of sessions which at present have to be taken to the High Court. There is no other tribunal which can deal with those cases. So, all these questions I understood would be investigated. At that time I was told that it was rather a complicated matter

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and that it was not practicable to decide it off hand. So, when that Court Fees Act was under consideration, the matter was suspended and we were promised that the whole question, as I said of the civil court as well as the question of equalisation of court-fees comparing by statistics to see whether the fees now levied by the High Court on the original side taken together amount to more or to less than the institution fees levied in mofussil courts, would be considered and that after taking into account every other aspect of the question the matter would be gone into. I have been trying to find out whether any steps have been taken in this connection, but I see that although the life of the Court-fees Act has been extended from time to time, the substantial change which I then proposed has not been brought about. I therefore submit that especially when the Honourable the Finance Member now wants to put the Court-fees Act on the statute book permanently, it is high time that the whole question should be investigated and equalisation to the litigants of the costs of litigation should be brought about. I submit therefore that unless and until some kind of measure is promised which was promised long ago and some information is given as to how far progress has been made in that direction as to whether the matter has been investigated and, if investigated, what stage it has come to, I certainly would not be in a position to consider whether it is desirable to put this Act as it stands on the statute book merely by extending its life permanently. Unless and until that is done, I think that I am opposed to the permanent placing of the Court-fees Act on the statute book.

Mr. K. M. MUNSHI (Bombay University): Sir, I do not want to controvert the attitude of the honourable member who spoke last on the bill. There are however some facts which do not appear to be within his knowledge. I trespass upon the indulgence of the House for a few minutes this evening because I am leaving to-night and will not be here to-morrow.

The scale of court fees in the High Court is the matter which my honourable friend makes a grievance about, but there is one fact which may be brought to the notice of the House in considering this matter. In Bombay there are a fairly large number of suits of very large amounts of one lakh and over, for all practical purposes, uncontested and for which nothing has to be done except putting the plaint on file serving the summons and taking the decree. These suits pay to Government much less than what similar suits in the mofussil will pay. But, with regard to the contested suits, the payment which is made to Government is more than the payment for a similar suit in the mofussil. So every suit for even Rs. 2,000, if it goes on as a long cause and if there is good defence, continues for a year or two and if there are full-blooded proceedings in that suit, it will pay to Government very much more than a suit of Rs. 2,000 in the mofussil. The High Court of Bombay has considered the question as regards the amount that goes into the coffers of Government, and looking to the peculiar nature of litigation in Bombay where there are ~~uncontested~~ commercial cases of a large amount it was considered

[Mr. K. M. Munshi]

proper not to introduce the mofussil system in Bombay and to maintain the same system which prevails in, say, the city of London which is a large commercial centre. That is, you pay not according to the value of the claim but according to the volume of the contest which you introduce in the litigation.

The second point is with regard to the city court. That question was also considered over and over again, both by the High Court and by the members of the Bar and the Profession, and also by the public, and even the public itself is against such a civil court in Bombay for the reason that very often suits of Rs. 1,100 involve a number of points on which hangs not only the decision of that particular suit of Rs. 1,100 but lacs of rupees worth of other claim. Therefore, if the mofussil system is introduced in Bombay it will not be either convenient or just to the litigants themselves. The public opinion also is very much against a civil court. These are the facts which I think I should place before the House.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Before we adjourn, I should like to refer to the question of seating arrangements raised particularly by the honourable member representing the University of Bombay. The committee I appointed has reported that they recommend that the seating of the parties be arranged in accordance with the plan shown by them. Every honourable member must remember that the difficulties, which my two predecessors felt in not allotting sections of the House to particular parties, does probably exist to-day, but now that the matter has been mooted and brought to its final consideration, I am going to accept the proposal made by the committee. In accepting it, it is possible that some individual members or a few of them collectively may be dissatisfied; but I cannot help it, because, after all, we have to come to some sort of conclusion and what my predecessors considered as very difficult I would pass over as easy because of the recommendation of this committee.

The committee propose that the block on the right from the first bench to the last should be assigned to Government members and there are 22 of them. The left block opposite should go to the Coalition-Nationalist Party and the Swaraj Party, from the first bench to the end. I was not quite clear and certain as to any definite parties here, but this gives me an assurance that there are definite parties at least as reported here.

As to the seats which the honourable members would occupy on the front benches, it would be a matter for themselves to decide. The left block then goes to the Swarajists and to the Coalition-Nationalists Party. The Swarajists and Coalitionists form 33 members (Swarajists 11 and Coalitionists 22). I have got lists of the names of the members of each party so that no mistake should occur as to any member's identity with any party. The seats on the left are 30. That is a difficulty; but as all the seats put together are 122 and the full number is 113 excluding

[The President]

myself every one can be accommodated in the extra seats in case of all parties being present in full force any day. The committee, however, thinks that this arrangement would meet the requirement of the parties. But supposing there are any vacancies in the back benches on the Government side, it does not mean that nobody should cross over there or anywhere else. The front block on the left of this first block is allotted to the Independents who are 7 in number, to the Labour Members who are 7 in number, and the Non-Brahmins who are 12 in number. That makes 26; that accommodation is sufficient for them. They will have the seats at the opposite end of the hall on my left, right up to the block coming to the centre. Similarly, the block on my right at the other end of the hall goes to the Mahomedan members, and from the partition up to the centre to the European members. As I said the other day, this arrangement should be seriously taken, and they should see that it is adhered to. This arrangement is to come into force from Monday.

The Honourable Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: What about nominated members?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: They are all there. In certain cases there may not be parties, but there may be groups. The plan will be put up on the Notice Board, and any further directions could be taken from the Secretary.

On the front bench on my left there are 8 seats; 1 to 5 go to the Coalitionists on the front benches, 6 and 7 to the Swarajists and the 8th goes to a member of the Independents. Then Labour will have 1 and 2 in the second section and the non-Brahmins 3 and 4. Mahomedans have 4 seats in front, 1 to 4 and the Europeans have no front seats because they are not particular about any.

Mr. G. L. WINTERBOTHAM: That is absolutely correct. "We are not entitled to one, and we do not press for one."

An Honourable MEMBER: What about the depressed classes?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: They are all included.

The House is adjourned to 10-30 a.m. to-morrow, Saturday the 23rd February 1929.

